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LD261404 [Editorial Report]

Gulf Conflict

Tanker Attack—An Iranian speedboat attacked a Panamanian-flagged Greek tanker off the UAE coast early 24 October, Nicosia radio reported. A fire aboard the tanker was extinguished and the vessel was subsequently towed to Dubayy port, Radio Monte Carlo disclosed. Tehran radio carried a brief news agency account of the attack by unidentified "speedboats."

Iranian Missile Power—KUNA cited a London *Observer* report that Iran has signed a new deal with the PRC for the purchase of Silkworms and Chinese copies of Scud B missiles.

Kuwaiti Diplomatic Activity—the Kuwaiti foreign minister sent separate "urgent" messages to his Soviet and American counterparts "to seek a solution that would deter Iran from persisting with its aggressions on Kuwait," KUNA announced. The agency added that Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah expressed the amir's appreciation for the "positive and constructive" stances of both the USSR and the United States on the Gulf.

Meanwhile, the Kuwaiti Cabinet announced that it "highly valued" the "positive" stances of the Arab and friendly countries that condemned the Iranian attacks on Kuwait, KUNA noted. Nevertheless, the Kuwaiti magazine *Al-Majalis* denounced "some Arab countries" for volunteering to side with Iran, according to KUNA.

Kuwaiti Bomb Attack—A bomb exploded in the office of a Pan Am ticket agent in downtown Kuwait 24 October, causing damage but no casualties, KUNA reported. The agency added that the Council of Ministers heard a report by the interior minister on the details of the incident, concluding that security authorities are continuing their investigations. A Tehran radio commentary on the explosion pointed out that a recent clampdown has not reduced the "wave of opposition" in Kuwait and asserted that the explosion could be construed as a protest against the ruling regime.

Egyptian Military Aid—Kuwait denied allegations published by the UK paper *The Sunday Times* regarding a "secret agreement" whereby Egypt would supply military aid to Kuwait in the face of Iranian attacks, KUNA reported. The agency cited a senior Kuwaiti official as saying that conditions do not necessitate "asking for help from anyone." The Egyptian Defense Ministry spokesman also denied the alleged military aid to Kuwait and termed the report "unfounded," MENA noted, adding that Egypt has not sent any pilots to Kuwait, as also asserted by the UK paper.

In a related development, two Egyptian Foreign Ministry officials left Cairo for Kuwait to affirm Egypt's "support" for Kuwait in confronting Iranian attacks, Cairo radio announced.

Soviet Stand on Kuwait—A Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman cited by TASS stated that the USSR condemns the "armed actions against neutral Kuwait" and added that attempts to draw third countries into the Gulf conflict are "inadmissable." KUNA reported a statement by a Soviet Foreign Ministry official expressing the USSR's "full support" for Kuwait in maintaining its "sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity."

GCC Meeting—A joint meeting of GCC foreign and finance ministers concluded in a press release carried by SPA that aggression against any GCC member state is considered an aggression against all the member states. UAE Foreign Minister Rashid 'Abdallah al-Nu'aymi, who chaired the 2-day meeting, strongly denounced and condemned the "sinful aggression" on Kuwait. He called for the UN Security Council members to "shoulder their full responsibilities" to implement UN Resolution 598.

Iraqi Diplomacy—First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan and Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz delivered a message from President Saddam Husayn to Saudi King Fahd, SPA reported. INA said the Iraqi officials planned to discuss the dangers posed by the continued Iranian "aggressions" against Iraq, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia. The two ministers also delivered a Saddam Husayn message to the amir of Kuwait, but KUNA noted that its contents were not revealed.

Egypt-USSR

TASS announced the reopening of the Soviet Consulate in Alexandria 25 October and noted the "marked positive changes" in Soviet-Egyptian relations in recent years.

Libya

Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi received Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party, who visited Tripoli over the weekend, JANA noted. The press agency also mentioned that the Armed Forces commander met with Junblatt.

Lebanon

Diplomacy—President Amin al-Jumayyil held talks with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak in Cairo 25 October, Cairo radio reported, adding that they discussed developments in Lebanon, efforts to convene an international peace conference, and the Gulf war. Al-Jumayyil subsequently visited Abu Dhabi and Bahrain, WAKH reported. The president's visit to Egypt was sharply criticized by PSP officials cited in a report by the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio.

President al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister Salim al-Huss held separate talks with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy during the latter's 23 October visit to Lebanon, Beirut radio noted.

Hubayqah Accusations—Former Lebanese Forces leader Elie Hubayqah accused his successor, Samir Ja'ja', of planning the assassination of late Prime Minister Rashid Karami, according to Voice of the Mountain radio. Citing a statement by Hubayqah, read by his brother Charles at a televised news conference, the radio named various individuals allegedly recruited by Ja'ja' for the assassination. However, a Lebanese Forces official cited by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon dismissed the "false allegations" emanating from the "farce" of the Hubayqah group's news conference.

Syria

President Hafiz al-Asad signed several protocols on joint cooperation with Bulgaria during his 3-day visit which ended 23 October, Damascus radio reported. BTA added that Al-Asad and Bulgarian leader Todor Zhivkov expressed "satisfaction" with their talks and found "identical or similar" stands on the issues discussed. A joint communique on the visit broadcast by Damascus television stressed the "cordial" atmosphere of the talks held in Sofia.

Sudan

Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi told government supporters who staged a "massive" demonstration in Khartoum that the Armed Forces were "in full control of the situation" and added that diplomatic and political efforts are under way "to contain the situation in the south," SUNA reported. In addition, an official Armed Forces spokesman denied the existence of any "political activity" within the army, according to a press report cited by SUNA.

Afghanistan

IRNA announced the formation of a united Islamic revolution front for Afghanistan comprising eight Muslim groups including the "Jihad Guards" and a Hezbollah faction. Meanwhile, the "Islamic Coalition Council of Afghanistan" expressed readiness to go into action against U.S. interests in the Gulf "or any other place," Tehran radio noted.

Palestinian Affairs

PLO's Qaddumi on Peace Conference, Summit

JN221840 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department, has expressed the belief that the current international situation is not conducive to convening an international Middle East peace conference in the near future. In a press statement published in Nicosia today, Brother Abu al-Lutf affirmed that despite the support lent to a conference by international public opinion, the obstacles placed by the U.S. Administration and the Zionist entity not only hinder the peace process in the Middle East but also poison the situation daily.

Brother Abu al-Lutf expressed the hope that the upcoming Arab summit would be a propitious opportunity for Arab states to settle their differences and show a unified stand on the Gulf conflict to ensure that they can devote their attention to the principal issue; namely, the Palestine question.

PLO's Salah Khalaf Urges Unified Arab Stand

JN250955 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0715 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Excerpts] Manama, 25 Oct (WAKH)—Salah Khalaf, member of the Fatah Central Committee, has stressed the need for Arab leaders to adopt a unified stand in their upcoming conference to stop the Gulf war, which has begun to expand and threaten the entire region and world peace.

In a statement to the newspaper *Akbar al-Khalij* published in Manama today, Khalaf said that there must be a serious Arab stand to end this war and stop Iranian ambitions in the region so that Arabs can convince the Islamic states and the big powers to adopt a unified stand on this question and force Iran to submit to the logic of justice and peace. He also called for making the summit a prelude to a unified Arab stand on this conflict, which he described as a dirty war aimed at draining Arab economic, human, and political resources. [passage omitted].

In his comprehensive statement to the paper, Khalaf called for the need to discuss Egypt's return and said: The isolation of Egypt, with its cultural, human, historic, and military weight, also affects the Palestinian question in view of the fact that this question is the pivot of all issues. The current situation requires an Arab effort if these issues are to be resolved, starting with an end to the Gulf war, Egypt's return, and a halt to the continuous bloodshed in Lebanon. Hence, the importance of working out an Arab plan, with a timetable, to begin dialogue and come up with realistic solutions to the Lebanese crisis. Khalaf stressed the Palestinians' readiness to participate in any solution that can bring back legitimacy and stability in Lebanon.

Concerning an international conference for peace in the Middle East, Khalaf asserted that after the failure of the Arab military option to solve the Palestinian question, an international conference, attended by the five big powers of the UN Security Council and the parties concerned with the Middle East question, has become the only option. He also expressed the PLO's readiness to participate within a comprehensive Arab delegation that includes representatives of the PLO, because the PLO cannot be excluded if a true solution to this question is desired. [passage omitted]

Khalaf revealed the existence of Egyptian efforts to bring the Jordanian and the PLO viewpoints over participation in this conference closer.

Khalaf touched on Palestinian military activity and said that it is increasing because the Palestinians in the occupied territory have realized that a solution can only be achieved through action and resistance. He pointed out that the Arabs inside the occupied territory have bought a large quantity of explosives, which they obtained from the Israeli army itself. He added that military action is the basis and means for an effective political move.

On Ties With Egypt, Syria

JN241248 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] Important remarks were made by Abu Iyad, alias Salah Khalaf, Fatah Central Committee member, in an interview to be published by *Al-Hadaf*, organ of the PFLP, on 26 October. In the interview, Abu Iyad says that contacts between the PLO and Egypt have not succeeded in making Egypt shun the Camp David accords and that Palestinian-Egyptian cooperation is heading from bad to worse.

Abu Iyad asserts his belief that the crisis between the PLO and Syria is about to end. He declared that indirect talks are taking place between the PLO and Syria. He said the two sides are exchanging memorandums that include clarifications on many issues. Abu Iyad predicts that direct talks on various issues will be held soon between the PLO and Syria. Abu Iyad affirms that the stage of the Amman agreement and the formation of a Palestinian-Jordanian joint delegation is over.

PLO Communique Reports Attack on Shatila

JN241928 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Oct 87

["Text" of military communique issued by the PLO on 22 October]

[Text] From their positions around the Shatila camp, Amal Movement gangs fired machineguns and rockets indiscriminately at the Shatila camp at 1645 the day before yesterday. One of the camp's inhabitants was martyred and others sustained various injuries. This

criminal aggression occurred following internal differences among Amal elements which turned into an armed clash. These elements attempted to fabricate clashes with our peaceful kinfolk in the camp. To foil this plan, our kinfolk, as well as our brothers defending the camp, maintained great self-control despite the heavy shelling.

2 Anti-Israeli Operations

JN241835 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] Our revolutionaries operating in the occupied homeland have carried out two heroic operations against enemy soldiers and installations in the occupied cities of Jerusalem and Ramla. The two operations seriously wounded four soldiers and set fire to a building and military depots. This came in two military communiques by the military spokesman for the Palestinian Revolution Forces General Command. The text of the two communiques is as follows:

1. Our heroes from the hero martyr Colonel Mundhir Abu Ghazalah unit operating in the occupied homeland planted high-explosive bombs inside the gas tanks of a building belonging to the enemy army. They did this despite the tight guard around the building. Afterward, our heroes successfully moved out of the operation area according to plan. At 1500 on 22 October 1987 the bombs went off. The explosion was heard in most areas of the city. A large fire broke out and spread to all floors of the building, destroying all their contents despite the Zionist firemen's attempts [to extinguish the fire]. The enemy admitted that four of its soldiers were seriously wounded.

2. The martyr Murad 'Abd al-Ra'uf group operating in the occupied homeland planted a bomb near a gas storage area on (Harari) Street in the (Abu Tor) quarter of occupied Jerusalem. The bomb went off at 2330 on 22 October 1987. The explosion destroyed part of the gas storage area and set fire to a number of gas cylinders. Immediately following the operation, the Zionist occupation forces encircled the scene of the operation and began to comb it in search of other bombs. These forces arrested several Palestinian citizens on the pretext of connection with the operation.

OPEC Affairs

President Discusses Production Monitoring

LD231828 Vienna OPECNA in English 1645 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] London, 23 Oct. 87 (OPECNA)—OPEC President Alhaji Rilwanu Lukman said today the organization was working on details of a formula re-introducing physical monitoring of member country oil production quotas.

Addressing a press conference, he said currently each country reported its own production figures.

He expressed the hope that a method would be worked out soon so as to leave no room for 'guesstimates and estimates'.

He added that 'If you allow production to go out of control, you are being passive'.

Noting that oil prices were subject to demand and supply factors, Lukman, who is also Nigerian minister of petroleum resources, said 'You cannot take one in isolation of the other'.

'We do not want oil to be priced out of the market, but we need a price to sell reasonably,' he added.

He said OPEC received cooperation from a large number of non-OPEC oil producers who did not increase their production and who appreciated the benefits of production discipline.

He said OPEC would try to match demand with supply so as to ensure that its market share did not diminish.

Algeria

Government 'in No Hurry' on Unity With Libya

PM231023 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 10 Oct 87 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Algeria: We Are in No Hurry To Establish Unity With Libya"]

[Text] London—Algeria has announced that, contrary to the claims of certain information media, it is in no hurry to declare unity with Libya. The maximum possible announcement in November is likely to be that Libya is joining the "fraternity and accord" agreement which Algeria had previously concluded with Tunisia and Mauritania. Official Algerian sources told *Al-Sharq al-Awsat* that it is possible the creation of joint institutions would be announced, but they would not exceed a unified parliament and some organs for political consultation and cooperation.

The Algerian sources said that Algeria does not believe in emotional unity and that the brother Libyans have been suggesting the idea of unity for a long time. The same sources also said the government has taken into consideration the previous unity experiments which collapsed with the first setback between the united sides.

The sources said that Algeria's concept of unionist relations with any country stems from economic cooperation developing into a state of integration, that would then be followed by unification of political action in various fields. Unity, they said, requires a strong foundation and the failure of previous Libyan unity experiments with a number of other states should serve as a lesson.

The sources said the "fraternity and accord" agreement signed with Tunisia and Mauritania underscores the importance of political stability, noninterference in the domestic affairs of others, consultation on all matters, and economic cooperation. They stressed that past Algerian-Libyan consultations had broached this subject.

Last Wednesday *The Washington Post* stated that an Algerian-Libyan political alliance would be officially announced on 1 November. Citing official Algerian sources, it also said there could be no unity without prior consultation with the Algerian people through a referendum. Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said on 25 June that Libyan-Algerian unity would be announced in November and he repeated the same thing on 1 September.

Envoy to Algiers Delivers Velayati Letter

LD221716 Tehran IRNA in English 1625 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] Tehran, Oct 22, IRNA—Iranian Ambassador to Algiers Siavosh Ya'qubi hand delivered a message from Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati to his Algerian counterpart Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, in Algiers Wednesday.

In the meeting Ya'qubi referred to the U.S. crime against the Iranian people as well as provocative remarks of the U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz in Bahrain and said such acts of atrocity are a open contempt of the Algeria accord.

Noting that Algeria is against intervention of foreign forces in the Persian Gulf, Taleb Ibrahimi said in response, that his country is certain that Iran has no ambitions on Arab lands.

Egypt

Reportage on Visit by Lebanon's Al-Jumayyil

WAKH Notes Arrival

JN250642 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0615 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 25 Oct (WAKH)—Press reports said here today that Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil, who arrived unexpectedly in Cairo yesterday evening, discussed with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak the current situation in Lebanon and the topics that will be discussed at the Amman extraordinary summit scheduled to be held on 8 November.

The newspaper *Al-Ittihad*, which is published in Abu Dhabi, said that the two presidents also discussed means of ending the Lebanese crisis and President al-Jumayyil's efforts to form a new government in Lebanon. They reviewed U.S. efforts to approximate the views of both Beirut and Damascus. The newspaper also said that the Lebanese president told the Egyptian president of his support for Egypt's readmission to the Arab League.

Foreign Minister on Talks

NC251529 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Excerpts] President Husni Mubarak and Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil held talks today on the latest developments in Lebanon, the efforts being made to convene an international conference for peace in the Middle East, and the Gulf war. [passage omitted]

Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid described the meeting between Mubarak and Al-Jumayyil as friendly and amicable. He disclosed that both presidents had discussed the Arab situation in general and current developments in the region in particular. During the meeting, both sides also examined bilateral relations. Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid said the talks had highlighted Egypt's concern to establish Lebanese legitimacy and restore stability.

Leaves Cairo 25 Oct

NC251058 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1000 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] Cairo, 25 Oct (MENA)—Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil left Cairo for the UAE at noon today after a brief visit to Egypt. He was seen off by President Husni Mubarak. This morning Presidents Mubarak and Al-Jumayyil held a 1 and 1/2-hour session of at Al-Qubbah Palace where the Lebanese president was staying.

Afterward, the two leaders resumed their discussion at a working breakfast. The talks were attended by: Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi; 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; and Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, who also bid farewell to the Lebanese guest. Following the talks, President Mubarak accompanied his guest to Cairo airport. The Lebanese president arrived in Cairo yesterday evening and was received by 'Atif Sidqi, 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, and Usamah al-Baz.

Paper Comments on Visit

NC260745 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2207 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] Cairo, 25 Oct (MENA)—The newspaper *Al-Jumhuriyah* comments in Monday's edition on the brief visit that Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil made to Cairo. The paper says that Egypt again urges all parties to take their hands off Lebanon, noting that such a call has been made more than once in the past. The paper adds that Egypt persistently seeks to restore legitimate authority and stability to wounded Lebanon.

The editorial states that Cairo has opened its door and heart to its Arab brothers. Egypt considers Arab concerns its own concerns, views Arab aspirations as its own aspirations, and believes its strategic security is based on Arab security. *Al-Jumhuriyah* says that this is Egypt's destiny and illustrates Egypt's brightly shining position in the heart of the Arab nation.

The paper remarks further that a restoration of Arab solidarity and a unified Arab strategy would signify an end to the sufferings and conflicts which still plague the fraternal Lebanese people. It notes that the various forces struggling in Lebanon have almost completely destroyed what the Arabs remember about the Lebanese model as a beacon of civilization and liberty in the region.

Al-Jumhuriyah concludes its editorial with a reference to the talks between President Husni Mubarak and Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil in Cairo. It reports that the talks had revolved around closely linked issues, noting that consultations on these issues within the quest for a unified Arab voice and strategy which would restore Arab solidarity to its previous vigor are of paramount importance.

Soviet Consulate in Alexandria Resumes Work

NC252014 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1620 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Excerpt] Alexandria, 25 Oct (MENA)—Soviet Ambassador in Cairo Gennadiy Zhuravlev has praised the tangible improvement in bilateral relations in the past few years. The Soviet ambassador also commended the expansion of bilateral cooperation in economic, trade, cultural, and technical fields.

Alexandria Governor Sayyid al-Jawsaqi received the Soviet ambassador today. Zhuravlev informed the governor about the resumption of activity by the Soviet General Consulate in Alexandria as of today to boost Egyptian-Soviet ties in all domains. The Soviet ambassador also introduced to him the new consul, Mayorv Valantin [name as received], who holds the post of first secretary at the Soviet Embassy in Cairo. [passage omitted]

'Military Source' on Defense of Gulf States

JN240659 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0633 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 245 Oct (WAKH)—A high-ranking Egyptian military source has affirmed that Egypt will not stand with tied hands if Gulf security is exposed to any danger. The Egyptian source added that Egypt will also not accept any political or military encroachment on any sister Arab country. The Abu Dhabi-based *Al-Ittihad* today cited the Egyptian source as saying that there are approximately 3 million Egyptians working in the Gulf and that they constitute part of Egypt's national economy. The spokesman added that if these Egyptians are exposed to any danger, Egypt will take measures to defend them.

This affirmation came in the wake of the statement issued by the Egyptian president last week. The statement says that Egypt will defend Kuwait, as well as any Arab state in the Gulf, if they are exposed to any danger.

Commenting on what was published in a Lebanese paper with regard to the departure of Egyptian pilots to Kuwait, the same source affirmed that Egypt did not send any pilots to Kuwait.

Two Officials Leave for Talks in Kuwait

NC251148 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] Ambassador 'Amr Musa, director of International Organizations at the Foreign Ministry, and Muhammad 'Abdallah, head of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the

People's Assembly, left Cairo for Kuwait this morning. They will inform Kuwaiti officials of Egypt's support for Kuwait in confronting Iranian acts of aggression.

Sidqi Decree Forms Ministerial Committees

NC221437 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi issued a decree today forming four ministerial committees. They are:

The Higher Committee for Policies and Economic and Financial Affairs, to be chaired by Dr 'Atif Sidqi; the Committee for Production and Productive Services, to be chaired by Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning; the Committee for Social Services, to be chaired by Dr Amal 'Uthman, minister of social affairs and social insurance; and the Ministerial Committee for Legislative Affairs, to be chaired by [illegible] 'or Faruq Sayf al-Nasr, minister of justice.

The prime minister's decree stipulates that the Higher Committee fo. Policies will be in charge of defining national long-term strategies in various fields; studying all questions pertaining to economic structural reform; drawing up economic, financial, and monetary policies; planning programs for promoting investment; studying legislation and decrees relating to various financial and economic affairs; and establishing the bases of the state's budget, monetary balance, and economic plan.

The Production Committee will be in charge of examining production development plans and their methods of implementation and follow-up in light of the national economic and social development plan. The committee will also be responsible for studying the industrial and agricultural production plan; finding ways of promoting water resources and improving irrigation systems; examining housing and reconstruction programs and the development of new communities; drawing an integrated plan for land reclamation projects; and considering all methods to promote the public sector.

The services committee shall be in charge of defining the objectives of social development; drawing up an integrated plan for services on the national level; studying family planning means; devising an integrated plan for developing spiritual values and education reform; supporting the state's policy to provide a social insurance umbrella for public servants; and defining the media and cultural policies which comply with the values of society and with development requirements.

The prime minister's decree also stipulates that the Ministerial Committee for Legislative Affairs will be in charge of reviewing and developing legislation and coordinating it according to the state's general policy and the national objectives stipulated by the Constitution; proposing draft laws which make this possible; and reviewing international draft agreements.

Opposition Parties Condemn Attack on Kuwait

NC251410 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1300 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] Cairo, 25 Oct (MENA)—Egyptian opposition parties today strongly condemned the Iranian aggression against Kuwait, describing it as a barbaric act threatening to expand the destructive war to countries not party to the raging conflict in the Gulf.

Neo-Wafd party leader Fu'ad Siraj al-Din, in an exclusive statement to MENA, stresssed the party's total support for the presidency's statement which emphasized Egypt's readiness to shoulder its national responsibilities toward its brothers in Kuwait and urged Arab countries to bear their responsibilities, individually or collectively, toward fraternal Kuwait. Siraj al-Din said it is high time the Arab countries took a decisive and firm stand toward these barbaric actions. He stresed that Arab countries' persistence in maintaining a negative position on the war will result in grave consequences for the entire Arab nation.

Dr Rif'at al-Sa'id, assistant secretary general of the National Progressive Unionist Party, underlined his party's condemnation of the Iranian rulers' stand and attempts to expand their military operations. He said this act of aggression against Kuwait was an attempt to expand the devastating war, noting that the Party condemns the continuation of the unjustified war, which is exhausting the resources and manpower of both peoples. He called for an end to the war, the withdrawal of both forces to international borders, and reference of the conflict to international arbitration.

Socialist Liberal Party leader Mustafa Kamil Murad condemned the Iranian aggression against Kuwait, which he said would further exacerbate the situation in the sensitive Gulf region. He stressed that President Mubarak's call for convening an Arab summit as soon as possible to define the Arab countries' stand on the aggression proves Egypt's eagerness to play its role in the Arab arena. He called on the Arab League to do its duty in accordance with the joint defense agreement so that positive measures may be taken to repulse such aggressions and prevent their recurrence, because Kuwait's security involves Gulf security and the latter involves the security of the entire Arab region.

Ahmad Mujahid, deputy leader of the Socialist Labor Party, asserted his denunciation of the strike at Kuwait and the escalation and continuation of the war. He called for a unified Arab stand and use of all peaceful means to convince the Iranian public to move and exert pressure on their government to halt this crazy war, which has harmed Muslims in Iraq and Iran.

Paper Comments on Gulf 'War of Platforms'

NC252230 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2133 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] Cairo, 25 Oct (MENA)—The *Al-Ahram* newspaper expresses anxiety that the latest serious escalation in the Gulf war might spread to areas beyond the present

theater. The paper also warns of the possibility of the introduction of new kinds of warfare. The paper notes that this is tantamount to a state of undeclared war. *Al-Ahram* points out that the problem lies in the fact that the escalation now affects outside parties. The paper adds that the escalation takes a more serious form if viewed in light of Iranian communiques.

In Monday's edition, the paper says that the war of platforms has already begun in the Gulf following the tanker war. It says that the two wars are characterized by an escalation of retaliatory actions. The paper points out that the recent war of platforms has spread to countries which are not original parties to the conflict, such as the United States and Kuwait. By contrast, the tanker war was limited to Iraq and Iran, the original warring parties.

Al-Ahram concludes its editorial by stating that it appears that the foreign parties do not want to get involved in the actual fighting. As proof of this, the paper asserts that despite the fact that the bombardment of a U.S. tanker in Kuwaiti territorial waters was a military action which might prompt a declaration of war, the United States said it was for Kuwait to decide how it would respond to this act of aggression.

According to the paper, it appears that the United States has left it up to Kuwait to deal with the ball which has fallen into its court. In this connection, *Al-Ahram* notes the Kuwaiti decision to redeploy its U.S.-built Hawk missiles to forestall any attacks by Iranian Silkworm missiles in the event Iran targets them at Kuwaiti positions.

Libya

Envoy Delivers Gorbachev Reply to Al-Qadhdhafi

LD260049 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0015 GMT 26

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution has received the Soviet ambassador, who delivered to the brother leader the Soviet leadership's reply to a telegram the leader had sent to CPSU Secretary General Mikhail Gorbachev.

The ambassador briefed the brother leader on the Soviet stance, which supports peace in the Gulf and affirms that the United States has no right to act unilaterally in the region. The USSR notes that if there is a reason for a foreign military presence in the Gulf, then the Soviet Union proposes that an international force under UN aegis protect shipping in the Arab Gulf. The Soviet Union is not against any state asking for the help of another; it understands this, but it cannot understand the U.S. Administration's aggressive line against Iran.

The Soviet Union sees a contradiction between U.S. words and deeds. If the U.S. style continues, then it will lead to the destruction of all the positive results achieved between the two superpowers and it will affect relations between them.

Al-Qadhdhafi Meets With Lebanon's Junblatt

LD231947 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1817 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] Tripoli, 23 Oct (JANA)—The brother leader of the revolution has received Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party.

Junblatt Ends Visit

LD251802 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] Brother Walid Junblatt, chairman of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party, left Tripoli this evening after a visit to the Great Jamahiriyah. In a statement to JANA, Brother Walid Junblatt stressed the importance of the unity of the Arab nation in these circumstances that are facing the Arab homeland from the ocean to the Gulf. In his statement, he urged the Arab people to face up to anyone betraying the Arab cause and to put on trial anyone who has betrayed the progressive cause in the Arab homeland.

JANA Editor Views Reagan Policy on Iran

LD231503 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] Tripoli, 23 Oct (JANA)—Reagan, head of the U.S. Administration, has threatened to continue his hostile operations against Iran. Speaking at a news conference held last night in Washington, he added that the United States is not in a state of war in the Gulf but intends to continue to protect naval convoys, as he put it. Reagan repeated his administration's opposition to efforts being made by members of the U.S. Senate to prevent the U.S. military presence in the Arabian Gulf.

JANA's international affairs editor commented on this, saying that the United States is in a continuous state of war against the peoples and in continuous combat against them. He said that imperialism is basically a war machine devouring the peoples of the earth for its own interests, one that drains off the world's wealth to strengthen its own teeth.

The editor added that the United States is a hostile military establishment that is quarrelsome and flexes its muscles. It is a reckless pirate that lies in wait for its prey and obstructs international shipping. The editor reaffirmed that the logic in which Reagan speaks is irresponsible and does not belong to the era of the civilization of mankind, but instead dates back to the uncivilized era—the time of theft, duels, and kidnapping.

The international affairs editor pointed out that every day Reagan expresses the reality of imperialism, with its haughtiness and arrogance regarding the peoples of the world and its contempt for those peoples. Every day he shows that he is a foolish man who does not understand the basics of political science. The editor asked about the ships which Reagan speaks of protecting and defending, stating:

Have all the ships that sail the waters of the world become American ships, which no wave can touch and upon which no bird can alight without U.S. permission? And woe unto those who come close to them or pass near them. Have the six continents of the world and the oceans been folded in such a way that North America now covers the whole world, that there is now no one else in the world but the United States?

The editor pointed out that if the major powers fear Reagan or do not want to prevent him from overstepping the limits of the small nations who are reached by the hated arm of the Yankees and whose soil is trampled under the Yankees' dirty feet, then the people who love peace, progress, and goodness have no alternative but to unite in a single front to resist international arrogance and to decide to at least die by an act of God and not on the order of the new god or to impose their will and wrest their rights and by force enter into their awaited era and end the eras of colonialism and domination.

Editor on U.S. Ban Threat

LD252021 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1820 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] Tripoli, 25 Oct (JANA)—The head of the U.S. Administration has threatened to impose a ban on trade exports to Iran and reports say that President Reagan's advisers support imposing a total ban aimed primarily at stopping imports of Iranian oil.

Commenting on these U.S. threats, the JANA international affairs editor says: It seems that the United States does not learn and benefit from past lessons and that it deals with people as it does with agents. An agent can be exhausted and tamed and its arm can be twisted. He can be dragged, with his head down, to where he does not want to go and he can be made to serve the objectives fixed for him. But free people and revolutionary forces see their will strengthened and their faith become more solid with confrontation and their drive is reinforced with every clash.

Did the Great Jamahiriyah stoop because the United States did not buy its oil? Did it become lenient because the United States imposed an economic boycott against it? Did its stance become flexible because the Great Satan antagonized it?

The editor points out: The United States must heed history. History is not moved by oil, it is not made by agents, and it is not written by the policies of traitors. It cannot be stopped by threats and it is not affected by thuggery and threats. No, history is made by the movement of human groups toward progress and the onward march of the masses. The United States cannot stop movement on the planet, change the laws of nature, or dent the will of peoples.

Paper Condemns U.S. as 'Modern-Day Dracula'

LD241420 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0750 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] Tripoli, 24 Oct (JANA)—Yesterday's *Al-Jamahiriyah* commented on the U.S. secretary of state's tour of a number of Arab countries, saying:

"We see Secretary Shultz's visit to the region, which took place at the same time as the United States was waging aggression against Iranian oil installations, as a message to all Arabs and Muslims to the effect that the fanning of the war in the Gulf is for the benefit of the Zionists in occupied Palestine—the Arabs ought to comply with the will of the United States and Zionism; otherwise, the outcome will be aggression against their territories and waters such as has happened to Iran."

The paper, which is published by the Revolutionary Committees of the Great Jamahiriyah, added: "We are responding to that message by standing by the side of the Islamic Republic against the wanton U.S. aggression."

The paper stressed that the United States is not the world's policeman; no one has given it the right to impose its protection on the small nations and, therefore, the U.S. interference in the Gulf, notwithstanding all the justifications, is a flagrant aggression against the security of the Gulf's littoral peoples and their freedom, sovereignty, and right to self-determination.

The paper pointed out that, by hoisting its own flags on ships in the Gulf and sending its fleets there, the United States is solely responsible for the expansion of the war to other parts of the region and stressed that the United States is "a modern-day Dracula," pointing out the series of crimes that the United States committed against humanity and its tireless endeavor to ignite wars in every part of the world.

The newspaper added that the gunboat policy collapsed with the fall of the French and British empires after World War II, specifically after the failed tripartite aggression against Al-Nasir's Egypt in 1956. However, the United States revived that policy in the Bay of Pigs, in the Bay of Defiance, "Sidra," and in the Arabian Gulf. However, entering bays and gulfs is easy, but getting out of them is always difficult.

The newspaper called for standing in a single rank against the United States. It said:

"We call on all Arabs and Muslims everywhere in the Islamic world to close their ranks and stand as one man against the United States and declare jihad against the United States and its Zionist protege, which is trying these days in particular to violate the sanctity of the holy mosque in Jerusalem. We call on all free men of the world and on all those who were harmed by U.S. imperialist colonialist policies to close ranks and fight to cut the heads off the U.S. snakes whose noise is getting louder these days in the Arabian Gulf."

Sudan

Al-Mahdi Addresses Pro-Government Marchers

JN241630 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1455 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] Khartoum, 24 Oct (SUNA)—Today government supporters staged a massive demonstration from Martyr's Square to the prime minister's office. Supporters of the Al-Ummah Party, the Democratic Unionist Party, and the southern parties, took part in the march and delivered a memo in support of the government and Armed Forces.

Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi addressed the marchers and said that the Armed Forces are in full control of the situation. He said diplomatic and political efforts are under way to contain the situation in the south, establish peace, acheive a cease-fire, and convene a constitutional conference. Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi said that state legislation will be enacted as an alternative to the barbaric May regime laws before the end of the year. He affirmed that the government is capable of confronting and overcoming all difficulties in preserving freedom and democracy.

His excellency said that those who claim to fear the IMF agreement, a clear reference to the Islamic Front, are principally responsible for Sudan's agreement with the IMF, with the IMF dictating conditions. The prime minister said that to protect the country, strict security measures will be taken against those who meddle with the people's basic living commodities and obstruct democracy. His excellency strongly attacked some political figures who deal with currency and undermine the national economy by working in corporations under the name of Islam. He said that these are not Islamic corporations.

He said that some are seeking to undermine democracy and dream of a military or civilian coup. His excellency said that Sudan's foreign policy is conducted away from axes and polarization and is based on friendship and good neighborliness. He said that Sudan will reciprocate in any dealing other than those which are based on axes and polarization.

In their memo, the marchers expressed support for the government's economic measures, reform program, and foreign policy. They also condemned violence and rejected terrorism by the rebel movement. They said that the southern problem can only be resolved through peaceful political dialogue. The opposition Islamic National Front staged a massive demonstration last Monday against the government's economic program and voiced support for the Armed Forces confrontation of John Garang's movement [SPLA/SPLM].

Prime Minister Marks 1964 Uprising Anniversary

EA231034 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1940 GMT 21 Oct 87

[Speech by Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi at Al-Ummah Party headquarters in Khartoum to mark anniversary of October 1964 uprising—date not given; live or recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. My brothers and sisters, honorable guests, may peace be upon you all. I convey to you warm greetings on the anniversary of the October revolution. [passage omitted]

The new laws are very important. The rightists want the September laws to remain as they are with [word indistinct]. That is what the rightists want. The leftists want secular law. The center wants the rights of citizenship to be guaranteed to all and Shari'ah law, with all its stipulations, applied to Muslims. Provided they are introduced democratically, laws which are not in dispute should be generally applicable throughout the country. We believe this position has the support of the country and the majority of the Sudanese people.

Regretfully, one section of the left is insisting on its point of view and the other section is looking to Garang to help it impose these views. We have to be clear about this. The right is also insisting on its point of view and thinking of ways and means to impose it. Both right and left are aware that most people are not on their side. That is why they are using tricks, through Garang or other similar means, to impose their views.

We trust that, God willing, we will prevent the domination of the left and the right and protect the [word indistinct] of the people of Sudan [applause] and uphold the wishes of the people of Sudan. We shall, God willing, counter whatever devices they resort to blow for blow. Those who started it will suffer most in the end. [applause] Any attempt to deviate from the democratic equation and [word indistinct] is a type of coup, either civil or military. [passage omitted]

I will now talk about foreign policy. We are proceeding in accordance with the principles of nonalignment. We regard them as a necessity. We think that the superpowers can accept this so long as we are conscious of their legitimate interests and deal conscientiously with them.

Secondly, good-neighborliness is a necessity because we do not intend to harm our neighbor. Anyway, they know that we can probably harm them more than they can

harm us. In view of this, we think that we can undertake positive Arab, African, and Islamic roles and direct our foreign policy toward security and the development of the country. [passage omitted]

My colleagues and I think we have a limited contract to build a house of five rooms. The first room is the building of the national economy. The second room is the realization of peace in the country. The third room is the new laws which will end the cultural fragmentation introduced in Sudan by Numayri's regime. The fourth room is the building of our Armed Forces so they will become the last line of defense for the homeland internally and the first line of defense in external confrontation. [applause]

The fifth room is foreign affairs. We want to build balanced relations with the superpowers so we can cooperate to our mutual interest. We wish to achieve ideal relationships with all our neighbors. We aim to base our relations on definite agreements in such a way that we establish security, peace, and cooperation.

We have a limited time to build this five-room house. We have only limited time. We do not have the health or the strength to continue working the way we do now for a long time. So, certainly, our intention is to build this five-room house as quickly as possible [words indistinct] so that others will later receive its keys. Our aim is to continue along this path and to build the homeland in accordance with it. Our main concern now is to build this house in the shortest possible time and to achieve these objectives.

May God give us success. Peace and the mercy of God be upon you.

Inter-Gulf Affairs

GCC Foreign, Finance Ministers Meet in Riyadh

Attacks on Kuwait Viewed

LD241831 Kuwait KUNA in English 1702 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] Riyadh, Oct 24 (KUNA)—Foreign and finance ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) opened a joint meeting here Saturday overshadowed by the latest Iranian missile attack on Kuwait last Thursday [22 October].

UAE Foreign Minister Rashid 'Abdallah al-Nu'aymi denounced Iranian attacks on Kuwait as "stark violation of all international laws" and heinous aggressions on a non-belligerent country.

Such attacks, he went on, run counter to all efforts aimed at bringing about peace and stability in the region.

Al-Rashid noted that the conference coincides with critical political and economic conditions experienced by the six countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council.

He feared that "irresponsible" attacks on non-belligerent Gulf countries would precipate "calamitous consequences" and threaten of a spillover of the Iran-Iraq war, a development which, he said, would pave the way for foreign interventions.

The GCC official described Security Council Resolution 598 which ordered a ceasefire in the Gulf war as "an important turning point" in international efforts to put a speedy end to the conflict.

He called for transforming the resolution into a reality and urged Security Council's big powers to assume full responsibility for complete implementation of the resolution in a way that safeguards the legitimate rights of both warring countries.

Before the meeting began, Al-Rashid said in a statement the ministers taking part in the conference have several ideas on how to the GCC should handle threats against the GCC countries and attacks on Kuwait.

Kuwait is represented in the meeting by Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad and Finance Minister Jasim Muhammad al-Kharafi who arrived here this afternoon.

UAE Minister Condemns Iran

LD241626 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1542 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] Riyadh, 24 Oct (SPA)—The joint meeting of the GCC Ministerial Council and the GCC's financial and economic cooperation committee began in Riyadh this evening.

Rashid 'Abdallah al-Nu'aymi, UAE foreign minister and chairman of the current session, opened the meeting with a speech in which he pointed out that the meeting has been devoted to discussing the course of economic cooperation and achievements attained since the last meeting. However, he added, we cannot separate these matters from the political and security issues now occurring in the region.

He added: The repeated attacks on sisterly Kuwait constitute a treacherous aggression on the sovereignty, independence, and security of a GCC member state that is not a party to the Iraq-Iran conflict. Consequently, this constitutes a flagrant violation of all international conventions and practices and contradicts all efforts and endeavors being undertaken to restore regional peace and stability.

He stated: In your name, I express our strong denunciation and condemnation of the sinful aggression against Kuwait and declare our support and complete stand with the Kuwaiti brothers against any aggression against the State's security, sovereignty, and independence. The security of the GCC member states is indivisible. These repeated and irresponsible attacks will have grave repercussions on the region's security and stability, will threaten to widen the scope of the conflict and to increase tension, and may provide a pretext for foreign interference.

Rashid 'Abdallah al-Nu'aymi pointed out that the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution No 598 constitutes an important watershed in international efforts to put a speedy end to the Iraq-Iran war and comes as an expression of the international collective will rejecting the war's continuation.

He added: We welcome this crystallization of international opinion concerning the conflict and look forward to its translation into a tangible reality and to seeing the large powers in the UN Security Council shoulder their full responsibilities in implementing the aforementioned resolution, including all its articles and provisions, in a manner safeguarding both sides' legitimate rights.

Rashid 'Abdallah al-Nu'aymi affirmed that the GCC member states' unified economic agreement constitutes an important turning point in economic coordination and cooperation among GCC member states. It is a step on the road to creating a joint Gulf market that would contribute to the GCC member countries' economic integration and open wide possibilities for these countries to engage in all kinds of economic activities to benefit the region's peoples in particular and the Arab and Islamic world in general.

The UAE foreign minister and session's chairman explained that the GCC states pin great hopes on the principles and goals included in the agreement. This is despite the occasional obstacles facing the implementation of some resolutions due to different legislations,

levels of development, and the nature of special circumstances among member states. We thus must study the appropriate means to overcome these obstacles.

He said the economic agreement has now been in force for 5 years, which makes it imperative for us to review the economic cooperation process and to bolster it. This will then consolidate and strengthen the Council's actions for developing prosperity and progress for the region's peoples.

A closed session then followed.

First Session Ends 24 Oct

LD242157 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] The GCC foreign and finance ministers this evening ended their first working session held within the framework of the joint meeting grouping the GCC Ministerial Council and the Council's financial and economic cooperation committee.

Their highnesses and excellencies are due to resume their meetings tomorrow morning to continue examining the items included in their agenda.

Press Release Issued 25 Oct

LD252102 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1715 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] Riyadh, 25 Oct (SPA)—The Arab GCC states' ministers of foreign affairs and finance this evening concluded the joint meeting of the Ministerial Council and the committee for economic and financial cooperation.

The joint meeting issued the following press release:

On the sidelines of the joint meeting, the GCC Ministerial Council held a plenary meeting on 24 and 25 October 1987 at the General Secretariat Headquarters in Riyadh under the chairmanship of His Excellency Rashid 'Abdallah al-Nu'aymi, the UAE minister of foreign affairs.

The Council studied the regional situation and the serious escalation resulting from Iran's aggression against Kuwait, which is not a party to the Iran-Iraq conflict; the dimensions of this escalation; and the great danger it poses to security and stability not only in this region but also worldwide.

Since its creation, the GCC has worked to preserve security and peace in the region, to avoid risks of the conflict, and to ease tension by finding a peaceful solution to the Iran-Iraq war in conformity with the Security Council's resolutions, particularly its recent Resolution No 598.

The Ministerial Council observed that Iran's actions are contrary to the requirements of peace and stability in the region. The Ministerial Council therefore condemns this aggression, denounces Iran's practices, and stresses that aggression against any member state amounts to aggression against all the GCC member states.

The Ministerial Council also examined Arab-Iranian relations in light of the Arab League Council's resolution of 25 August 1987. The Council recalled its 24th session's resolution on this issue as well as plans to discuss this issue at the upcoming extraordinary Arab summit in order to define the nature of these relations. The Council hopes that the upcoming summit will assume its responsibilities towards the constant aggression against this important part of the Arab homeland.

The joint meeting of the Ministerial Council and the committee for economic and financial cooperation also reviewed the clauses and articles of the united economic agreement that have so far been implemented and expressed satisfaction at the steps that have been taken. In desiring to implement more of these clauses and clauses and articles, it has decided to take the necessary steps to reinforce the GCC organs to help them overcome any difficulties that might arise. It has also decided to recommend to the Higher Council's eighth session that citizens of the GCC member states be allowed to engage in a number of activities and professions in accordance with the relevant regulations.

The joint meeting also reviewed progress of the negotiations between the GCC member states and the European Community. The participants expressed their hope that the EC will adopt a positive stand towards the GCC statement at the joint ministerial meeting in Brussels on 23 June 1987 and in conformity with the cordial spirit which prevailed at their ministerial meeting in New York on 14 September 1987.

Iranian Gunboat Attacks Panamanian Tanker

JN240719 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0700 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] International news agencies, citing Gulf shipping sources, report that an Iranian speedboat shelled the *Prosperventure-1*, an oil tanker flying the Panamanian flag, off Dubai in the UAE at dawn today. The tanker had taken aboard crude oil from the Saudi port of Ra's Tannurah.

Fire erupted aboard the tanker as a result of the attack but was later extinguished. None of the tanker's crew was injured, the shipping sources added.

Kuwait

Explosion Rocks Pan Am Office; No Injuries

LD241156 Kuwait KUNA in English 1146 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] Kuwait, Oct 24 (KUNA)—A blast rocked the sea front offices of the American airline company Pan Am in down town Kuwait Saturday [24 October].

The explosion caused damage to the offices but no casualties were immediately reported, as the blast occurred at 2:15 pm local time, minutes after the end of the office hours.

Adjacent business offices sustained minor damage, and fire fighters and police rushed to the scene of the explosion. The cause of the blast is yet to be established.

Ministers Receive Report

LD251834 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1413 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 25 Oct (KUNA)—The Council of Ministers held its weekly meeting this morning under the chairmanship of His Highness Shaykh S'ad al-'Abdullah al-Salim al-Sabah, the heir apparent and chairman of the Council of Ministers.

Rashid 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rashid, the minister of state for cabinet affairs, stated that the Council began its meeting by studying the two letters received by his highness the amir from Pierre Buyoya, the Burundian president, and from Spiros Kiprianou, the Cypriot president. The two letters concerned ways to strengthen relations and increase cooperation. [passage omitted]

The Council heard a report by Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad al-Jabir, the minister of interior, on details of the explosion that took place at a commercial office at noon yesterday. He informed the Council that the explosion caused limited material damage and that the competent security authorities were continuing investigations into the incident.

Al-Rashid said that the Council continued discussion of some issues that had been discussed at previous meetings concerning steps and measures required to face recent developments. There were discussions of possible measures in all fields at various state ministries and their corporations for strengthening the country's security and stability and defending its sovereignty and security. [passage omitted]

Al-Rashid added that the Council reviewed a bill to amend the first clause of Regulation No 24 of 1963 concerning the establishment of a supreme defense council. The Council decided to endorse the bill and submit it to the amir.

The Council also discussed a number of other topics and adopted appropriate decisions.

'Urgent' Notes Sent to Shultz, Shevardnadze

LD231431 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1347 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] Moscow, 23 Oct (KUNA)—Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has appealed in two separate urgent messages to the Soviet foreign minister and the U.S. secretary of state to "pay extreme attention to Kuwait's safety."

In a statement to KUNA, 'Abd al-Mohsin al-Du'ayj, Kuwait's ambassador to the USSR, said that the message to George Shultz, the U.S. secretary of state, was today delivered to the U.S. Embassy here in Moscow while the message to Eduard Shevardnadze, the USSR foreign minister, was delivered to the Soviet Foreign Ministry.

The Kuwaiti ambassador pointed out that in his two messages, Shaykh Sabah, Kuwait's deputy prime minister and foreign minister, called on Shultz and Shevardnadze "to seek a solution that would deter Iran from persisting with its aggression against Kuwait," which is not a party to the Iraq-Iran war.

Al-Du'ayj added that "Shaykh Sabah reemphasized Kuwait's attitude, which stands for peace throughout the world and its support both for efforts being exerted by the Soviet and U.S. foreign ministers to end the Gulf conflict and their anxiousness to prevent its expansion."

The Kuwaiti ambassador pointed out in the two messages that the attack against Kuwait's floating man-made island "constitutes a flagrant threat to Kuwait's security and peace" and expressed the hope that the two foreign ministers would give this incident due attention.

Al-Du'ayj added that Shaykh Sabah expressed the appreciation of the Kuwaiti amir, government, and people for the "positive and constructive" stances of Moscow and Washington towards the Gulf. He also wished the U.S. and Soviet foreign ministers success and progress in their meetings, meetings that could thus serve world peace and mankind's prosperity.

Cabinet Discusses Iranian Attacks, Security

LD241355 Kuwait KUNA in English 1317 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] Kuwait, Oct 24 (KUNA)—His Highness the Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad Saturday presided over a cabinet session which discussed the latest developments in the region in light of repeated Iranian attacks on Kuwait.

Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashid al-Rashid said in a statement following the meeting which was held at Al-Sa'if Palace, that the Council discussed "consequences and objectives" of the irresponsible aggressions against a non-belligerent country. He added such aggressions constituted flagrant violations of the international charters and rules.

Al-Rashid said the cabinet later resumed its meeting under chairmanship of His Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-Abdallah and discussed all available means and ways to "enlist all capabilities and efforts to bolster the country's security and stability," Al-Rashid said.

The cabinet highly valued the positive stances of the Arab and friendly countries which condemned the Iranian attacks on Kuwait, Al-Rashid concluded.

Petroleum Council Meets on Oil Terminal Attack

LD251940 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] Rashid 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rashid, minister of state for cabinet affairs, has declared that the Higher Petroleum Council held an extraordinary meeting this morning under the chairmanship of his Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, the heir apparent, prime minister, and chairman of the Higher Petroleum Council. He said that the meeting discussed technical details of the latest Iranian attack on Kuwait's offshore oil-loading terminal, the attack's results and resulting damage, and also its impact on oil exports.

The meeting also examined the necessary steps and measures to be taken to make the offshore terminal fully operational again. Al-Rashid added that the Council listened to a detailed report on the subject from the Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifa al-Athbi, the minister of oil, who stated that the damage is being repaired and that it will not affect Kuwait's oil exporting capacity.

Volunteer Civil Defense System To Begin

LD261144 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0957 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 26 Oct (KUNA)—Colonel Khalid Rashid al-Qa'ud, the director general of civil defense, has disclosed that his department soon intends to initiate a system of voluntarily recruiting citizens and residents for civil defense operations.

Speaking at a news conference at the General Administration for Civil Defense today, he noted that the planned volunteer system will be announced within the next few days. He said it will complement part of the general plan for civil defense involving all persons in Kuwait, adding that the Administration decided to confine the plan in its first stage to Kuwaiti nationals, to be followed at a later stage by brother residents.

When asked by KUNA how the volunter program will be implemented, Col al-Qa'ud replied that volunteer centers will be set up to cover two periods, one in the morning for government workers and business employees and one in the evening for remaining citizens. The program will cover all Kuwaiti provinces and will be used to set up rescue, first-aid, and fire-fighting teams. [passage omitted]

Col al-Qa'ud emphasized that the system's introduction did not depend on military escalation, although its announcement has coincided with the recent escalation, and that it instead complements the law and regulatory regulations that call for its enthusiastic implementation by the leadership as well as by the citizenry. [passage omitted]

He added that the Administration had received 317 applications from volunteers even before the program was announced. Col al-Qa'ud additionally noted that the volunteer regulations will be issued today and will establish one field for women and another for men, while the Civil Defense Administration also has a comprehensive plan it will put into effect. [passage omitted]

RFL: Egypt Offer of Troops, Pilots Accepted

NC240842 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0600 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] According to well-informed Arab sources, Kuwait has decided to accept Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's offer to dispatch Egyptian troops to Kuwait to form a primary defensive line against any potential Iranian attack against Kuwaiti territory. The sources added that intensive contacts on this issue are under way between the two countries. They additionally noted that Kuwait is still refusing to provide any additional facilities on its territory for U.S. forces.

Meanwhile, press reports said that 35 Egyptian pilots and 50 technicians had arrived in Kuwait on Thursday [22 October] to fly the Phantom aircraft that Kuwait will soon receive from Washington in preparation for any Iranian attack against Kuwait.

Official Denies News Reports

LD260814 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0742 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 26 Oct (KUNA)—Kuwait and Egypt have denied reports issued by news agencies concerning a secret agreement under which Egypt would offer military aid to Kuwait to help face Iranian aggression.

In a statement published today, a senior Kuwaiti official told *Al-Qabas* that local circumstances did not necessitate requesting assistance from anyone. He said that Kuwaiti-Egyptian military relations were long-standing and that Kuwaiti soldiers had contributed to Egypt's defense against the Zionist enemy in 1967.

He added that an official statement on this subject would be released today. [passage omitted]

Amir's Address Affirms Support for UN

LD241120 Kuwait KUNA in English 0806 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] Kuwait, Oct 24 (KUNA)—H.H. the amir Saturday [24 October] hoped that the United Nations would represent the international community's free will without any interference and solve problems that have been for years aspiring for settlement.

The amir, in a brief address on the occasion of the U.N. Day, added that "our world today is in dire need of such an organization."

He hoped that the international organization would elevate, in its decisive decisions, over interests and whims. [sentence as received] Thus maintaining its esteem and credibility to enable it settle urgent issues that have been threatening world peace for years.

H.H., while expressing pleasure to address a statement on the occasion of celebrating the U.N. Day, hoped the specialized U.N. agencies all the success in shouldering their great assignments.

He reiterated Kuwait's full support to the U.N. and to its noble doctrines, embodied in its charter and renewed "our commitment to the international law that should govern relations between the world countries, big and small."

"As any other peace-loving conscience," H.H. the amir hoped the U.N. constant progress and that its role would be boosted to achieve, in the best possible method, the great aspirations hinged on it by the human race, namely in ridding the world forever from dangers of war.

He said such a situation could be obtained through settling international disputes via peaceful means, adding "this what should be done in a human society that considers itself civilized."

H.H. prayed God would aid the U.N. in performing its noble message so as to remain "a live symbol for right, freedom, security and peace world over, thus attaining a better world ruled by reason, and logic where everyone would enjoy progress and welfare under the prevalence of law and justice."

USSR's Vorontsov To Pay 'Important' Visit

LD261116 Kuwait KUNA in English 0952 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Text] Kuwait, Oct 26 (KUNA)—Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister Yuliy Vorontsov will arrive here next Thursday to discuss the situation in the Arabian Gulf and to deliver a message from the Soviet leadership to his highness the amir, a local daily newspaper said Monday.

Al-Anba' said a Soviet Foreign Ministry official will arrive here tomorrow to prepare for Vorontsov's visit, described by the paper as very important.

Vorontsov, who is described as one of the officials who are close to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, has participated in the recent talks held in Moscow by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

Meanwhile, the United Arab Emirates' daily *Al-Ittihad* said today PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will meet with Vorontsov in Kuwait next Thursday.

Quoting Palestinian sources, the paper said Vorontsov will convey to 'Arafat a message from the Soviet leadership on the results of the recent talks held with Shultz concerning the efforts aiming at holding an international conference on peace in the Middle East.

USSR Envoy on Gulf Attack, Iran-Iraq War

JN241548 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 23 Oct 87 pp 1, 22

[By Fatimah Mansur]

[Text] Ernest Zverev, the Soviet ambassador to Kuwait, has strongly condemned yesterday's attack against oil tankers in the man-made island inside [Kuwaiti territorial] waters. He described the attack against oil tankers in Kuwait's territorial waters and against the oil installations' area in Al-Shu'aybah as irresponsible operations that lead to increasing escalation in the region.

In an exclusive statement to *Al-Anba'*, he pointed out that in proceeding from this premise, the USSR's stand in this regard is specific and clear. He stated that this attack is a new link in a chain of aggressive operations carried out by Iran and the United States, saying: We denounced the recent attack against Kuwait as we denounced the strikes against the Liberian tanker and a U.S.-flagged tanker in the Gulf. Proceeding from the same premise, we condemn the U.S. attack against Iranian platforms because all these operations increase the seriousness of the situation and add fuel to the fire. Moreover, all these operations are unacceptable and are not a means of resolving the issue, he added.

The Soviet ambassador asserted that these developments as well as the war's escalation arouse extreme concern on the part of everyone, particularly the USSR. He said the events that result from these attacks constitute extremely dangerous developments and that if this escalation continues, he does not rule out the possibility of other countries becoming involved in this war. He added: This means that this war may also involve countries outside the region, and that the development of events as well as the quick escalation affirm that if the flame of the current fire continues, it can then involve new counries from outside the region in the war. Therefore, the use of force to resolve this regional issue should thus be abandoned, he stated.

The Soviet ambassador called for exerting all necessary efforts for the immediate activation, without delay or hesitation, of the convening of a second Security Council session to implement Resolution No 598.

Minister of State on Hopes for Amman Summit

LD251755 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1429 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] Kuwait, 25 Oct (KUNA)—Rashid 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rashid, minister of state for cabinet affairs, expressed the hope today that Arab leaders will reach satisfactory results for consolidating Arab solidarity during the emergency Arab summit scheduled to be held in the Jordanian capital next month.

During replies to journalists' questions, he stated that the Arab peoples are aspiring to this Arab meeting, which has not taken place for some time. They hope that this meeting will establish resolutions for restoring security and stability at a time when dangers as well as desires surrounding the Arab world are numerous. It is imperative to make appropriate decisions that will restore the unity of the Arab nation, stress its dignity, and act as a new starting point for cooperation in all spheres.

In discussing Iran's recent aggression against [Kuwait's] artificial floating island, Al-Rashid explained that Kuwait's contacts with Javier Peres de Cuellar, the UN secretary general, and the chairman of the Security Council are still continuing.

He stressed that Kuwait is studying all means and eventualities still possible for preserving this Arab state's security and stability and within the framework of an independent policy determined by the interests of the homeland and the citizens.

Papers Comment on Recent Iranian 'Aggression'

Gulf Measures Urged

LD241604 Kuwait KUNA in English 0802 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] Kuwait, Oct 24 (KUNA)—A local paper Saturday called for collective and effective Gulf protective measures that would defend the region against stepped up Iranian attacks.

The call by *Al-Anba'* newspaper came in an editorial comment today on the Riyadh meeting of the foreign and finance ministers of the six-state Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

Citing the Iranian missile attack on Kuwait's offshore oil loading terminal and previous attacks on tankers inside Kuwait's territorial waters, the paper said the aggression will not be the last in the absence of an international, Arab or regional deterrent that would force Iran to reconsider its calculations.

Al-Anba' warned that silence over such attacks would only embolden Iran to continue its aggressive plans against Kuwait, the Arab Gulf states and the whole Arab nation.

'The GCC Ministerial Council today,' it stressed, 'faces an historic responsibility which bodes no reluctance or compromises,' adding that GCC states today face the most serious and challenging danger since inception.

U.S. Stance Viewed

JN251412 Kuwait KUWAIT TIMES in English 24 Oct 87 p 6

[Editorial: "Weighing the Threat"]

[Text] Iran's latest Silkworm attack on Kuwait's offshore oil terminal not only violates an international law but also poses another challenge to United States in its commitment to ensure free navigation in the Gulf. As Kuwait strengthens its vigilance against the increasing Iranian intransigence we fail to derive any comfort from U.S. interpretations of the growing threat. The Iranians who seldom claim responsibility for their attacks on commercial shipping and oil facilities of the non-belligerent countries have gone out of their way to make an admission of their misdeeds for all concerned. Iran makes no bones about saying that it had fired missiles against Kuwait. Not only this, it has terms to dictate and options to offer under the missile threat. Given to confusing issues, the Iranians do not see the difference between Kuwait's interests and the U.S. interests. They won't mind attacking Kuwaiti targets if they find themselves unequal to the task of hitting American warships. When seen against this Iranian arrogance, the Americans appear to be making fine distinctions between an attack on Kuwaiti target and an attack on U.S.-flag ships, a target in Kuwait waters and a target in international waters. The latest reiteration of U.S. position comes from a State Department spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley. We are given to understand that the American naval forces have the right to defend themselves in international waters. The State Department may have some justifiable reasons to emphasise the terms of the American assignment in the Gulf but things are not going to be seen in the same perspective by Iran. If the Americans are waiting to be attacked in their warships by the Iranian missiles, then such an attack may never come. The Iranians who keep saying "we think we are at war with America," may never go to war. But war they must with the non-belligerents like Kuwait. Being bent upon asserting its right to strike at commercial ships and interests of non-belligerent countries, Iran is struggling hard to frustrate the U.S. escort mission. Iran may never dream of scoring victory in the Gulf war but it surely sees a victory if the Americans choose to pull out of the Gulf.

When the U.S. warship shelled the Iran's oil platforms in retaliation for an Iranian attack on U.S.-flag tanker American Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger had declared the matter "closed." This was obviously done to make plain to U.S. critics at home and abroad that the attack had been avenged and there was no need of going further. This was the second American message to Iran to make it desist from attacks. But the message was misunderstood. Being well aware of the snags in the American vigilance, Iran made a Silkworm attack on Kuwait's oil terminal. Why it chose to take the line of least resistance by attacking a target in a non-belligerent country? Because it does not believe in the distinctions known to the U.S. Navy. The message is now too clear to

call for any elaboration from the U.S. And yet we see President Ronald Reagan elaborating U.S. position—that he did not think U.S. forces were headed for war with Iran. Much that we try to appreciate Reagan's point in placating the American Congress, this does not put the U.S. on any enviable position. Are we to believe that congressmen would like to score against Reagan at any cost—even at the cost of their counry's image? Reagan who is making strenuous effort to evolve a bipartisan approach to most problems in the wake of the stock market crash has said "I am putting everything on the table except Social Security, with no other pre-conditions." He is ready to decrease budget deficits and increase taxes. He is surely stooping to win over if not conquer Congress. He naturally expects his critics in Congress will understand his position and lend him the support he needs to honour his onerous responsibility for peace in this region. Reagan has warned Iran not to commit provocative acts "against us or anyone else" and promised to respond if the latter does not stop. He is surely more assuring than the State Department officials. How far he can go to deter the Iranian threat remains to be seen. We hope he will try all options to persuade the Iranian leaders to honour the UN ceasefire resolution.

Arab Support for Iran Denounced

LD241546 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0853 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] Kuwait, 24 Oct (KUNA)—A Kuwaiti magazine here today denounced the positions of some Arab countries that have been volunteering either to side with Iran or to establish agreements "for stategic cooperation to confront Israel" with it. This magazine additionally stressed that the "Iranian madness is equivalent to Israel's policy, manners, and aggression."

The Kuwaiti *Al-Majalis* editorial on Iran's continued aggression against Kuwait depicted these aggressions as "an expansion of the war," despite claims by "some brothers that their friendship with Iran helps to restrict the war rather than to expand it."

Al-Majalis wondered "What are these brothers waiting for? Are they waiting for Iran to officially declare war on Kuwait?... Are the missile attacks against Kuwait not an expansion of the war," and more meaningful than a declaration of war?

The editorial stressed that Iran's aggressions against Kuwait and Iraq "have deeper and more dangerous aims than what some friends and brothers who tilt toward Iran for a temporary material benefit can imagine."

It pointed out that the war in the region, which has now lasted for more than 7 years, and its continuous and dangerous repercussions threaten to set the whole region aflame and divert the Arab-Israeli conflict from its correct course. The war is no longer between only Iraq and Iran but has instead become a pan-Arab war, since "reason and logic are no longer good enough for the Iranian madness."

Al-Majalis stressed that Iran has benefited a great deal from Kuwait since the latter—following the Iranian revolution—did not alter its policy towards its Iranian community—thousands of Iranian citizens still live in Kuwait, work there, and remit millions [currency not specified] to their families—and has instead "greeted Kuwait's humane generosity with ingratitude, rancor,and baseness, all of which are hard to believe as well as being unacceptable by any law or norm."

Saudi Arabia

Source Denies U.S. Urged To Repel Iran Attacks

LD251809 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1705 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] Riyadh, 25 Oct (SPA)—An official Saudi source has denied a report published by the French newspaper *Le Figaro* in issue No 13,417 from 20 October to the effect that during a recent visit by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, the Kingdom urged the United States to employ its right to repel any Iranian aggression.

The Saudi offical source told SPA that "what the newspaper reported in this regard is totally unfounded. It comes within the framework of a campaign launched by Zionist circles against the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in order to create agitation and confusion. [no closing quotation marks as received]

Reagan-Fahd Discussion of Missiles Denied

LD251748 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1654 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] Riyadh, 25 Oct (SPA)—An official source has commented on the *Emirates News Agency*'s (WAM) report quoting *Al-Ittihad* newspaper that U.S. President Ronald Reagan telephoned King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-Aziz, the custodian of the two holy mosques, to reaffirm the U.S. commitment to supply the Kingdom with Maverick missiles should it be threatened. The official source told SPA: "There is no truth to this newspaper report, for there has been no telephonic contact between President Reagan and the custodian of the two holy mosques on this matter."

Soviet-Iran Ties, Iranian 'Duplicity' Viewed

LD252251 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Commentary by Husayn al-'Askari]

[Text] The rapprochement of Tehran's rulers with the Soviet Union grows with the Tehran rulers' increasing feelings of failure and despair and takes place in order for them to obtain more weapons.

The courtship now occurring between the ruling regime in Tehran and the Soviet Union is an astonishing situation. This is because it reflects the duplicity of thought that Tehran's rulers are endowed with. When they climb the pulpits and appear on balconies, they announce before gatherings of the masses of helpless Iranian people that the Soviet Union is an atheistic country and that its leaders are red Satans. They add that divine providence has led them to rid the world of its sufferings and misfortunes. On the other hand, Tehran's rulers also throw themselves in Moscow's laps, begging this country to give them advice and directives and to provide them with reasons to stay. One of the main reasons for this is to obtain weapons, which have become the sole commodity that Tehran's rulers today endeavor to obtain, even if this is at the expense of the necessary daily food of the Iranian people, who are now living in their worst conditions ever. They find it extremely difficult to obtain their basic needs from the black market where goods are sold at prices 10 times higher than their real cost, due to an acute shortage of basic food items.

All this occurs because Tehran's rulers have gambled the people's future in exchange for weapons at unreal prices since the legal market refuses to deal with them. They are therefore compelled to purchase weapons from arms merchants and middlemen who are eager to make profits in a most abominable fashion. In this respect, and due to the pressing need and the increasing feeling of despair and despondence felt by Tehran's rulers, the latter has adopted a line of duplicity in their stand and thought.

This is not an acquired state, but it is part of their psychological makeup. This is because while they are luring their people into believing that the Soviet Union is an atheistic country and that its leaders are red Satans, Tehran's rulers travel to Moscow seeking help through the courtship now openly taking place between Moscow and Tehran. This is not unusual for Tehran's rulers, who act irrationally and move outside time since they do not possess a sense of time and space. Their state therefore calls for lamentation.

Iraq's Ramadan, 'Aziz Arrive 25 Oct

LD251205 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Excerpt] Mr Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of Iraq's RCC and first deputy prime minister, and Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, arrived in Jeddah this afternoon on a visit to the Kingdom. [passage omitted]

Give King Saddam Husayn Note

LD251957 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1846 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 25 Oct (SPA)—King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, the custodian of the two holy mosques, received a message from his brother His Excellency Saddam Husayn, the Iraqi president.

The message was conveyed to him by Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of Iraq's RCC and first deputy prime minister, when he received Ramadan at Al-Salam Palace in Jeddah this evening. Ramadan was accompanied by Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister. [passage omitted]

Depart 26 Oct

LD260922 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0555 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 26 Oct (SPA)—Taha Yasin Ramadan, first deputy Iraqi prime minister and member of the Iraqi RCC, departed the Saudi Arabian Kingdom this morning at the conclusion of his visit. He was accompanied by Tariq 'Aziz, Iraq's deputy prime minister and foreign minister. Ramadan had delivered a message from Saddam Husayn, the Iraqi president, to his brother King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the custodian of the two holy mosques. [passage omitted]

United Arab Emirates

Minister Sends Message to Iran's Velayati

JN261456 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1432 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 26 Oct (WAKH)—Rashid 'Abdallah, the UAE minister of state for foreign affairs and chairman of the GCC Ministerial Council's current session, has sent a message to Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, the Iranian foreign minister.

In reporting this, WAM noted that Sayf ibn Sa'id Sa'id, the director of the UAE Foreign Ministry's GCC and Gulf States Affairs Departments, delivered the message to Mostafa Ha'eri-Fuman, Iran's ambassador to the UAE, during their meeting here this afternoon. The message concerns relations between Iran and the GCC states.

President Sends Message to Perez de Cuellar

JN241136 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0820 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Oct (INA)—President Saddam Husayn has affirmed that earnest endeavours to reinforce the United Nation's prestige and support its role in organizing international relations must be accompanied by determination to respect and implement its resolutions and by practical measures to deter regimes that insist on challenging it.

In a message to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar on the anniversary of the founding of the United Nations, the president said: The United Nations, particularly the Security Council, is now facing a severe test of its ability to discharge its responsibility of maintaining world peace and security.

President Saddam Husayn added that the aggressive, expansionist war waged by the racist regime in Tehran against Iraq since 4 September 1980 not only constitutes a blatant violation of the basic principles of the UN Charter but also an unprecedented challenge to the Security Council's powers to resolve differences and armed disputes. The ruling regime in Tehran has made Iran the only member in the history of the United Nations to refuse to accept resolutions calling for a cease-fire unanimously adopted by the Council for the past 7 years.

The following is the text of President Saddam Husayn's message to the UN secretary general:

Your Excellency Javier Perez de Cuellar, UN secretary general:

It pleases us on this occasion to salute you and praise your efforts in the service of the United Nations, in reinforcing its role, and in entrenching its march toward achieving its lofty objectives of establishing peace and justice and attaining prosperity for humanity.

Iraq is proud to have been among the first 51 countries to sign the UN declaration in 1945. Since then, Iraq has contributed earnestly and honestly together with peace-loving people in the world to give the United Nations a leading role in resolving the problems of our contemporary world out of our conviction that the UN is the true arena and suitable platform for tackling various international problems.

The UN has contributed through its organizations and institutions to easing human pain, reinforcing cooperation, and helping developing countries. However, what the UN has achieved so far does not match the hopes pinned on it.

The international community is still living in an age of nuclear arms and is facing threats of nuclear war. At the same time expansionist and racist regimes arrogantly continue to defy the UN Charter and its priniples of right and justice. The Zionist entity continues to pursue policies of annihiliating the Palestinian people, forcibly annexing Arab land, using force or the threat of force against Arab countries, and preventing a large number of Palestinians made homeless by Zionism from returning to their homeland.

The racist Zionist systera has even refused to recognize the principle of the Palestinians' right to repatriation. The Pretoria regime, the Zionist movement's ally, continues to pursue its obnoxious racist policies against the people of southern Africa, indifferent to UN resolutions.

The UN, particularly the Security Council, is now facing a severe test of its ability to discharge its responsibility of maintaining world peace and security. The expansionist war waged against Iraq by the racist regime in Tehran since September 1980 not only constitutes a blatant violation of the basic principles of the UN Charter, but also an unprecedented challenges to the Security Council's powers to resolve differences and armed disputes. The ruling regime in Tehran has made Iran the only member in the history of the United Nations to refuse to accept resolutions calling for a cease-fire unanimously adopted by the Council for the past 7 years.

After all these years of Iranian intransigence, the UN Security Council unanimously adopted the binding Resolution No 598, which Iraq has welcomed as a good basis for a comprehensive settlement to the conflict. By contrast, Iran has been maneuvering to impose its terms on the Council, giving the unmistakable impression that it effectively rejects the resolution both by carrying on aggression not only against Iraq but against Saudi Arabia and Kuwait as well and by threatening neutral shipping in international waters.

The international community has welcomed Resolution No 598 as a historic turning point in the annals of the world body, demonstrating as it did an unprecedented unanimity among the permament members of the Security Council. This consensus has proven that the major powers are prepared to coordinate their moves in the face of dangers threatening world peace and security and has revived hopes that such cooperation to save humanity from devastation and destruction is possible.

The UN and the Security Council in particular are dutybound to make sure that this great hope is not frustrated and that this unique chance to prove their ability to discharge their responsibilities is not wasted. They must proceed to take whatever measures are needed to ensure the implementation of Resolution No 598 in its entirety in the interests of comprehensive peace.

Serious efforts to enhance the standing of the UN and its role in regulating international relations should be coupled with a determination to see its resolutions respected and enforced, and practical steps should be taken to

deter regimes bent on defying them. Only through such an approach can the hopes that prompted the founding of the UN be fulfilled. On this anniversary of the United Nations we wish it success in fulfilling its noble goals.

[Signed] Saddam Husayn

President of the Iraqi Republic

Ramadan, 'Aziz Leave for Talks in Saudi Arabia

JN251104 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1023 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Oct (INA)—Taha Yasin Ramadan, Iraqi RCC member and first deputy prime minister, accompanied by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, left for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia today.

In a statement to INA, Taha Yasin Ramadan said he is carrying a written message from His Excellency President Saddam Husayn to His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques, on bilateral relations and the current Arab situation. The first deputy prime minister added that he will discuss with the brothers in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia ways to enhance and expand existing and current areas of bilateral cooperation between the two fraternal states in service of their common objectives and in fulfillment of the Arab nation's hopes.

Taha Yasin Ramadan said he will also discuss with Saudi officials the Iraq-Iran war, the dangers posed by the Iranian regime's continued escalation of its aggressions against Iraq, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia, and its rejection of all international resolutions designed to bring about peace so it can realize its expansionist ambitions in neighboring Arab states and jeopardize the security and stability of the region. He went on to say his talks with the brothers in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will also tackle the current Arab situation and the preparations currently under way to hold the Arab summit in Amman.

Return From Visits

JN261510 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1415 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Text] Bagdhad, 26 Oct (INA)—Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, accompanied by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, returned to Baghdad today following a 2-day tour of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

During his trip the first deputy prime minister delivered two messages from President Saddam Husayn to Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and to Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, amir of Kuwait, dealing with bilateral relations and the current Arab situation.

Reportage on Gulf War Combat Operations

Communique No 2,884

JN231727 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Communique No 2,884 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 23 October]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant Armed Forces have continued their combat activities, inflicting further losses on the enemy last night and today as follows:

1. Nineteen various positions, three observation posts, a single-barrelled machinegun, and a shovel [preceding word in English] were destroyed; seven scoundrels were killed; and a tank was damaged in the I Army Corps northern sector.

2. Five enemy soldiers were killed; a machinegun, two observation posts, and three infantry positions were destroyed in the II Army Corps central sector.

3. A vehicle, three infantry positions, and an observation post were destroyed; an ammunition dump was blown up in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah.

4. Two enemy soldiers were killed in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan.

5. Our units in the VII Army Corps sector inflicted the following losses on the aggressors: 10 soldiers killed; 4 infantry positions and a single-barrelled machinegun emplacement destroyed; a vehicle burned; a heavy machinegun destroyed; and an ammunition dump blown up.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 23 October 1987

Communique No 2,885

JN241718 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Communique No 2,885 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 24 October]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our victorious Armed Forces have inflicted new losses on the aggressors by carrying out a number of combat operations last night and today as follows:

1. Three infantry positions were destroyed and one ammunition dump was blown up in the I Army Corps northern sector.

2. One infantry position and one observation post were destroyed and one ammunition dump was blown up in the II Army Corps central sector.

3. Three ammunition dumps were blown up in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah.

4. One SPG-9 gun was destroyed and its crew injured in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris.

5. One ammunition dump was blown up on the VII Army Corps front.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 24 October 1987

Battle in North Denied

JN251700 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1645 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Oct (INA)—Iraq has denied Iranian allegations that a battle took place in the Shaqlawah area of northern Iraq. In a statement to INA this evening, the Iraqi military spokesman said these allegations are groundless, adding the Iranian regime is spreading such rumors to feed its propaganda machine, which is accustomed to releasing lies.

Communique No 2,886

JN251734 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Communique No 2,886 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 25 October]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In defense of the homeland, our brave Armed Forces have continued their combat operations, inflicting new losses on the enemies of our country last night and today as follows:

1. One of our units in the I Army Corps northern sector opened artillery fire on two positions inside enemy territory, destroying them and killing their personnel. Our units also inflicted the following losses on the aggressors elsewhere in the sector: Four persons were killed; five infantry positions and one observation post were destroyed and their occupants killed; two vehicles, one of them large, were destroyed and their occupants killed; one armored personnel carrier was damaged; and one ammunition dump was blown up.

2. One of our units in the II Army Corps central sector spotted an enemy troop concentration, opened artillery fire on it, and killed or wounded most of its personnel. Seven scoundrels were killed. Two infantry positions, one observation post, and one gun emplacement were destroyed.

3. One enemy soldier was killed; three infantry positions, one observation post, and one shovel [preceding word in English] were destroyed; and one vehicle was damaged in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah.

4. Four enemy personnel were killed in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan and one ammunition dump was blown up in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris.

5. Two enemy soldiers were killed and one infantry position was destroyed on the VII Army Corps front.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 25 October 1987

Players Present Olive Branch to Iranian Team

JN261520 Baghdad INA in English 1408 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] Kuwait, Oct 25, INA—The Iraqi national volleyball select defeated the Iranian select 3 to 1 in a match took place here today within the frame of the 4th Asian volleyball championship, now proceeding in Kuwait. Scores in the four rounds match were 15-7, 8-15, 15-12 and 15-11.

At the beginning of the match attended by Shaykh Fahd al-Ahmad al-Jabir, chairman of the Asian Olympic Council, the Iraqi players presented to their Iranian counterparts olive branch and a bouquet of flowers in embodiment of peace spirit aspired for by Iraq.

Paper Views Al-Asad's 'Disgraceful Alliance'

JN251647 Baghdad AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 22 Oct 87 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "A Flat No"]

[Text] Fantastic sums of Arab money have been pouring into the coffers of the Al-Asad regime for the past 10 years to support the so-called steadfastness and confrontation. Is it not time the Arab nation asked where all these funds have gone and how they have been spent? The answer to this question lies in the behavior of the Al-Asad regime over the past 10 years.

The regime which has pocketed all this money has done nothing toward liberating the occupied Arab land, particularly the Golan Heights. Rather than exert itself to clear up the Arab atmosphere and pool Arab efforts, the Al-Asad regime has sought to split Arab ranks into blocs. It silenced the guns along the front with the Zionist entity and consistently renewed the mandate of the UN peacekeeping forces.

Rather than support Palestinian resistance and facilitate its activity, the Al-Asad regime split its ranks. This regime chased out of Lebanon those elements of the Palestinian resistance which fell afoul of it and retained those whom it could hold hostage. The Al-Asad regime has even waged a relentless war against Palestinian camps, using tanks and guns, and has somehow or other lent a hand in the atrocities committed against these camps, from the Tal al-Za'tar massacre to the Sabara and Shatila massacre.

Still fresh in our memory is the disgraceful stand of Al-Asad's forces during the Zionist invasion of Lebanon and the siege of Beirut: These forces just looked on or even vacated some of their positions as if to facilitate the advance of the Zionist forces. This regime's record in Lebanon is even worse. It has been involved in all the conflicts, divisions, and internecine, bloody battles among Lebanese forces. Al-Asad's regime has brought disrepute to Arab military honor by giving its soldiers in Lebanon a free hand to plunder, loot, kidnap, and smuggle as they pleased in cooperation and coordination with its partner, the Khomeyni regime.

Inside Syria itself, the regime has played an even uglier and filthier role: Rather than mobilizing the Syrian people against aggression, the Al-Asad regime has subjected the Syrian people to the most gruesome kind of repression and terror, committing the most outrageous massacres. No Arab will forget the massacre of Aleppo, the massacre of Palmyra Prison, and the veritable massacre in Hamah, which killed over 25,000 women, children, and elderly.

We are not in the business of cataloguing the atrocities of this black regime against Iraq, its people, and revolution. However, suffice it to note its disgraceful alliance with the Iranian regime, not only against Iraq, but against all the states of the Arabian Gulf and the entire Arab nation. The traitor, Hafiz al-Asad, is only too aware of the hostile and vicious designs of the rulers of Tehran. Indeed he is aware of the kind of relationship these scoundrels maintain with the Zionists of Tel Aviv.

Despite that, he has allied himself with them, supplied them with weaponry, materiel, and advice and set himself up as advocate for them. Al-Asad even went so far as to spy for the rulers of Tehran, letting them in on deliberations and proceedings of Arab conferences.

Every Arab meeting has been preceded and followed by direct coordination between the regime of the traitor Hafiz al-Asad and that of the charlatan Khomeyni. Not only does Hafiz al-Asad let his Khomeyniite allies in on the deliberations of Arab officials, but he also agrees with them on the strategy to subvert the meetings. Al-Asad is doing this now as the upcoming Arab summit approaches. This is the pitch-black record of Hafiz al-Asad and his regime. This is how the Al-Asad regime spent the Arab support funds over the past 10 years.

There are other instances to cite: What has been the response of Hafiz al-Asad to repeated Khomeyniite attacks against Kuwait? What has his response been to the abominable crime of the Khomeyniites in holy Mecca? Did he utter a word when the Al-Faw Peninsula was occupied or did he rejoice, maybe? Did he ever utter one word to upset the Iranian rulers?

Such a regime deserves neither moral nor material support. It is to be proscribed and punished, having misused support funds contrary to the interests of the Syrian people and the Arab nation. It would not use it otherwise, though. It is high time the felon was told "you have done wrong" and the traitor "you have betrayed." It is high time a resounding flat no was said to this regime.

Paper Ridicules Syrian Statements on Gulf

JN261200 Baghdad INA in English 1030 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Text] Baghdad, Oct 26, INA—An Iraqi military paper today mocked at statements and assertions made by the Syrian officials concerning their stand on the side of the Arab Gulf countries in case they came under Iranian aggression.

Describing those statement as "empty claims," *Al-Qadisiyah* daily of the Iraqi Defence Ministry said that the Syrian officials sounded those statements out of belief that the day in which Iran "aggresses upon countries of the Arab Gulf is still a long way to come," so they hoped to get paid for making such statements, the paper added.

Events in the Arab Gulf region, *Al-Qadisiyah* said, had developed faster than what the Syrian officials expected, hence they were left with two options "either to side with the Arabs of the Gulf or be on the side of Iran and the Zionist entity...and since they are agents they have chosen the second option," *Al-Qadisiyah* reiterated.

BRIEFS

New Ambassador to U.S.

Washington, 21 Oct (INA)—'Abd al-Amir al-Anbari, Iraq's newly appointed ambassador to the United States, has presented his credentials as the new Iraqi ambassador to President Reagan. In a speech he delivered upon receiving the credentials of the Iraqi ambassador, U.S. President Reagan paid tribute to Iraq's acceptance of UN Security Council Resolution 598 which calls for ending the Iraq-Iran war. He added that Iraq accepted the UN Security Council resolution while Iran rejected it. [Text] */Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 22 Oct 87 JN/*

Peres 'Optimistic' on Reagan-Gorbachev Summit

TA260734 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0600 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres yesterday said that the postponement of the Reagan-Gorbachev summit is hurting the prospects for Middle East peace talks. Nevertheless, Peres is optimistic about the prospects for the summit. He was speaking with our correspondent Yasmin Qeyni:

[Begin recording] [Peres] The summit has not been canceled, but the date has not been set. Obviously the relations between the superpowers will undoubtedly affect the situation in our region. An understanding between the superpowers is necessary to get things moving in our region. The wider the gap, the slimmer the chances. However, I do not think this is the end of the matter.

[Qeyni] What significance do you attribute to Husayn's statement that for him an international conference is the only format for peace talks, thus actually rejecting the new proposal to hold talks under the auspices of the two superpowers only?

[Peres] We are familiar with Husayn's position, and it is not surprising. I see no significant difference between the two superpowers and the five permanent members of the Security Council. As far as we are concerned, I do not think the difference is that great. [end recording]

U.S. Plan To Cut Aid Met With 'Great Anxiety'

TA231339 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew
23 Oct 87 p 1

[Report by Alex Fishman and Yosi Heiman]

[Text] The United States recently relayed a message to the Defense Ministry announcing its intention to cut more than $70 million from the military aid allocation it had promised Israel this year. The U.S. announcement was received with surprise and great anxiety by the defense establishment.

Senior defense establishment officials fear that the U.S. trend in reducing aid may set a dangerous precedent for following years. They also foresee difficulties regarding future military aid. Defense Ministry officials counted on $1.8 billion for fiscal 1987-1988, but now they doubt whether grants of this size will be received in the future.

The U.S. announcement stems from the severe budget difficulties the administration is going through. The purpose of the cutback in aid to Israel is to balance the U.S. Administration deficits. According to the announcement, there is no connection between the planned cutback and the Gramm-Rudman Amendment, which was also meant to balance these deficits.

The debate on the size of foreign aid to Israel was to have opened 1 month ago in Washington but was delayed as a result of the return to Israel of Defense Ministry Director General David 'Ivri, head of the Israeli delegation, following the death of his son. 'Ivri will probably leave for the United States again in the near future to renew the debates, and the issue of the administration's intention to cut back on aid will also be raised.

Hadashot has learned that Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin may also leave next month for the United States. The issue of future military aid may be included in his talks, among other items on his agenda.

Rabin Interviewed on U.S. Aid

TA241253 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew0900 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Interview with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by Yosi 'Abadi; date and place not given—recorded]

[Excerpt] ['Abadi] Shalom to you, Mr Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin.

[Rabin] Shalom and a good Sabbath.

['Abadi] How do you think the collapse of the New York Stock Exchange this week will affect the scope of U.S. aid to Israel?

[Rabin] As far as the scope of U.S. aid to Israel is concerned, we have not seen a real increase in the past 3 years. In other words, aid has not kept up with inflation in the United States. We continue to receive a fixed sum of $1.8 billion in military aid and $1.2 billion in economic aid. There is no doubt that in the last 3 years there has been pressure in Congress to balance the U.S. budget deficit. For example, in the last U.S. fiscal year the deficit amounted to almost $180 billion out of a budget of $1 trillion. In other words, an 18-percent deficit was planned from the outset. In the wake of what has happened, the current trend of Congress is—and we have already seen proof of this—to reduce the deficit by slashing the budget and, if the President agrees, also by imposing additional taxes. We will have to wage an arduous struggle with the help of the administration which, in the wake of the termination of the Lavi project, undertook in writing to preserve the fixed amount of aid in the face of Congressional pressure.

['Abadi] Have any hints as to a possible cutback been heard this week?

[Rabin] U.S. procedures would have it that now that the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings Amendment has been ratified and the body in charge has submitted the budgetary facts, an almost automatic decision on across-the-board budget cuts—except for the budgets protected by law, such as national insurance, education, and health—would have to follow. If these automatic cuts pass—and I very much hope that they do not—the foreign aid

budget in the current U.S. fiscal year will be slashed by tens of millions of dollars. We will try very hard, together with the administration which made a commitment to us, to prevent that.

['Abadi] How will a possible cutback affect the termination of the Lavi project and the development of alternative projects?

[Rabin] Look, one of the reasons that led me to the decision on the need to terminate the Lavi project was the realization that we were on the brink of a period of economic uncertainty, both in Israel and to a larger extent in the United States. After all, in actual fact, the Lavi project was financed almost in its entirety by U.S. aid. The continuation of the Lavi project would have called on us to invest another $1.5 billion in the next 3 to 4 years but we would not have seen any increase in the IDF's combat ability until then. Also, there was no certainty that we would receive the same amount of aid in those 3 to 4 years.

In the last 2 years, we also realized that the cost estimates were constantly rising. This necessitated the decision to terminate the project. Our main test now will be our success in terminating the project at a mimimum cost in order to free funds for the purchase of weapons in Israel and the United States as a substitute for the Lavi. I think that more people in Israel today understand that a decision to terminate the Lavi project was necessary in view of the economic uncertainty, and the drop in the value of the dollar which led to a reduction in purchasing power of man-hours in shekels. Inflation in Israel is 20 percent, wage rises of at least 20 percent are due, and the dollar's value has gone down by 3.5 to 4 percent. Therefore, as years go by, the dollar's purchasing power in terms of man-hours in Israel has been eroded by 15 to 25 percent.

['Abadi] Did the data at your disposal during the deliberations on the Lavi project and prior to the collapse of the New York Stock Exchange make you cautious about economic uncertainty in the United States?

[Rabin] First of all, those who saw the data about the increasing U.S. trade deficit and the vast budget deficit, those who heard the talk of members of both houses of Congress, those who saw the legislation approved by Congress calling for cutbacks aimed at a more balanced budget, those who have been witnessing the cut in the foreign aid budget over the past 3 years from $18 billion to some $15 billion, a cut which has not yet affected us—unless they were blind or deaf could not have failed to see the writing on the wall that we would be in for an arduous struggle to preserve the fixed aid sum, which in itself entails a decrease in real terms. On the other hand, there is the government's economic policy, which includes a freeze on the exchange rate of the dollar. This is justifiable because indexation would lead to the unleashing of inflation in Israel. Moreover, wages continue to rise. In other words, one gets fewer man-hours per dollar with every passing year. In view of all this the decisions we made were inevitable.

['Abadi] In view of the termination of the Lavi project and what you just said, will it be necessary to cut the IDF's budget?

[Rabin] As decided by the Israeli Government and as we agreed with the U.S. Administration, the allocation for defense out of our own resources will remain unchanged in real terms compared with this year. In other words, the allocation for defense that is made out of our own resources will not be slashed. The allocation made from U.S. sources will increase by $100 million, in addition to the $300 million that is convertible to shekels. Direct offset purchases that were to have been cancelled as of 1 October this year will continue to the tune of $150 million. In other words, the sum to be used in Israel will increase. At the same time, however, the IDF's expenditures will occasionally be reduced, although these will continue to increase due to marginally variable factors. We will have to pare the Army, both regular and reserves, to a size we can maintain while improving its quality. Quality improvements cost money and occasionally necessitate another cut in the size of the Army.

['Abadi] Moving to a more ideological level, there are those who argue that a cutback in U.S. aid to Israel—industrialist Stef Wertheimer, to cite one example—will only help the State of Israel. What is your point of view on this matter?

[Rabin] I think it is totally unfounded. Were Israel to stop receiving those $3 billion today it would have to change its entire way of life, both civilian and military. We had better remember that when it comes to defense we must bear in mind what the Arab countries and armies neighboring us have been acquiring, either through their own resources or those of other Arab countries. We should not forget that the Arab confrontation countries receive aid from the Arab oil states. The Soviet Union helps those Arab countries that buy weapons from it by selling at cheaper prices. When their debts to the Soviet Union mount, the latter either writes them off or reschedules repayment over 40 years without interest, as was the case with Syria. Therefore, the confrontation states do not build their military strength out of their own resources but seek the assistance of the Arab oil countries and the generous help of the Soviet Union. In view of this, if we want to beef up our military strength, we cannot do this out of only our own resources.

['Abadi] This being the case, do you see the collapse of the New York Stock Exchange this week, the deterioration of the economic situation in the United States, and a possible cut in U.S. aid to Israel as affecting Israel's security?

[Rabin] If the worst-case scenarios come true—and we will try our best to prevent that—and military aid is cut, Israel's security will be adversely affected unless Israel makes up for the difference out of its own resources. This will have to be done at the expense of other items in the state budget. There is a story about the late Levi Eshkol. One day somebody came to him and told him: Eshkol, there is a drought. Eshkol asked: Where? The answer was: In Israel. At that point Eshkol retorted: As long as it is not in the United States then it is not so bad. This story is all the more true today. [passage omitted]

Air Force To Purchase F-16C's 'Off the Shelf'

TA251152 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew25 Oct 87 p 2

[Report by Alex Fishman]

[Text] The Air Force has decided to purchase F-16C's from the United States off the shelf of General Dynamics, the plane's manufacturer. What this decision means is that no components developed in Israel will be introduced into the plane, nor will there be any cooperation with Israel Aircraft Industries over the development and production of the plane.

In addition, the defense establishment has submitted a request to move up delivery of the planes by 1 year, to 1990. The U.S. State Department has informed the defense establishment that it will use its influence on General Dynamics for a more rapid implementation of the agreement.

The defense establishment has also asked that the next plane deal be implemented with the United States on the same terms as enjoyed by the U.S. Air Force. This would save millions of dollars in agents fees which are transferred to the Pentagon in a normal deal.

Further Reports on Shultz Visit, Peace Process

Aide on Secret Initiative

TA231315 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 23 Oct 87 p 1

[Report by Rafa'el Mann]

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir this year made two secret political initiatives to further the peace process which are "no less significant than what Peres did." The weakness of these initiatives is that their details cannot be publicized for as long as they have not yielded results, the director general of the Prime Minister's Office, Yosef Ben-Aharon, said.

Ben-Aharon refused to give additional details on these initiatives, but did say they do not include the contacts carried out under the initiative of Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu.

Weizman Views Negotiations

TA250838 Tel Aviv IDF RadioinHebrew0600 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Telephone interview with Minister Without Portfolio 'Ezer Weizman by Mikha Friedman—live]

[Excerpt] [Friedman] In the wake of the inability of the cedars of Lebanon, the Soviets and the Americans, to communicate over the promised summit, what chance is there for the moss on the wall for Israel and Jordan to hold direct peace talks? ["If the mighty have succumbed how shall the weak emerge unscathed? If the cedars have caught fire, what will the moss on the wall do?"]

[Weizman] Look, all those phrases are very beautiful, but let us speak to the point. The main question is whether we are entering into negotiations with the Arab world over the continuation of the peace process which we embarked on in 1978, 1979, and 1980, and the answer must be yes. Now, one thing is clear. Any talks, whether direct or indirect, will be over the future of Judaea and Samaria, in accordance with Menahem Begin's agreement in the Camp David document that the final status of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza will be determined through a proces. Therefore, the main issue is what will be the future of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza.

[Friedman] Do you believe such negotiations can be held without the support of the two superpowers?

[Weizman] I believe that, first of all, anybody who speaks about direct talks—and I do not believe there can be direct talks; even at Camp David there were no direct talks—must find a technique to speak with the Arabs through the superpowers or through some other element. If anybody is afraid to speak—and I am referring to the prime minister, I am not wriggling out of that here—if anybody thinks, if the prime minister thinks, that he does not want the Soviets in the negotiations, then what is the difference between an international conference and negotiations between the United States and the Soviet Union? I think this is evading the main issue.

[Friedman] Have you heard anything about the prime minister agreeing to, according to some people, direct talks between us and Jordan under the auspices of the superpowers?

[Weizman] There is some such proposal which I do not understand because I do not understand... [changes thought] Incidentally, if the Soviets and Americans are prepared to take this upon themselves, I would be prepared. But it takes two to tango here and this tango must be danced with Husayn, Mubarak, and with the Arab world.

[Friedman] When you say there is such a proposal, do you know that the prime minister is behind it?

[Weizman] I know nothing. I am telling you my view at the moment. Now, the other main question is as follows: We signed a peace agreement with Egypt. People are referring to this issue as though Egypt has nothing to say here at all. We signed an agreement with Egypt. It was the first agreement between us and the Arab world. One president of Egypt gave up his life over this issue, among other things. We must advance, we must move forward quickly. If you lose a certain period of time in life, you cannot grab it again. Look, up to some time ago everyone—although not I—thought the U.S. economy was a wonderful one. I said what I thought in discussion on the Lavi 5 months ago, that the U.S. economy worried me. A strong United States can negotiate on our future much better than a weakened United States. Look what has happened between Gorbachev and Shultz.

[Friedman] Some people are saying that the last week, or over the past few weeks, there has actually been some sort of change in the prime minister's position and he is already not imposing so much of a veto on...

[Weizman, interupting] I have a suggestion for you.

[Friedman] Yes?

[Weizman] Interview him.

[Friedman] We did that on Friday.

[Weizman] So do it again.

[Friedman] Do You really think he is an obstacle to peace? In the same week that he is prepared...

[Weizman, interrupting] I do not only think it, I am convinced of it. It is not just him. The problem is the entire concept. There are concepts that vary between the Likud and the Alignment. It was because of this that I left the Likud. I respect the views of others, I do not have to accept them. I think that is a mistaken view. We have to think about our future for the next 10, 15, 20 years. [passage omitted]

Weizman Terms Shamir Obstacle

TA231317 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew23 Oct 87 p 5

[Report by Ilan Kfif]

[Text] Minister 'Ezer Weizman yesterday charged the Likud and Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir with being an obstacle to the peace process. "The only ones who say no to the peace process are the Likud, and it is Shamir who is holding up the process. In an atmosphere of rapprochement between the United States and the Soviet Union, the Israeli Government, headed by Shamir, must not be an obstacle to peace."

Appearing at a gathering of insurance agents at the Tel Aviv Sheraton, Weizman said: "I do not understand the fears of the prime minister and the Likud over rapprochement with the Soviets. The prime minister will forgive me, but how can he think of getting Jews out of the Soviet Union without talking to the Soviets? If Shamir gives an affirmative answer to the Soviets, we will have relations with them, and there will be a Soviet embassy in Israel with antennas on the hill."

In Weizman's evaluation, Shamir does not fear rapprochment on the subject of an international conference with the Soviets, but over the fact that it will be necessary to discuss the future of the occupied territories in accordance with the commmitment made by Menahem Begin in the Camp David accords.

Shultz Backs Likud Position

TA231533 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic22 Oct 87 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "Shultz' Statements and the Conclusions"]

[Text] After concluding his visit and his meetings with the leaders of Israel, Egypt, Jordan and Saudi Arabia, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz declared yesterday that as far as the Arab-Israeli conflict is concerned, the time has come to shift the emphasis away from attempting to arrange an international conference. He added that he supports those in Israel who say that the international conference is unnecessary and that the best thing is to hold direct bilateral negotiations.

In this statement the United States clearly declared its position on advancing the peace process in the Middle East. This position reflects the views, ideas, and opinions of the Likud led by Yitzhaq Shamir, prime minister of the Israeli unity government.

It has become clear that the United States has unambiguously decided to disregard the postions of Jordan, Egypt, the PLO, and Syria who call for the convocation of an international conference, which the Arab parties to the conflict consider to be the only practical road for efforts to advance the peace process and diplomacy in the region.

Amid recurring talk on the possibility of a U.S.-Soviet agreement on the Arab-Israeli conflict, Shultz stated that the Soviet Union's stance toward Israel is regarded as the main and primary stumbling block to the peace process. With this attack on the Soviet Union, the U.S. secretary of state may consequently have blocked a possible joint Soviet-U.S. position because such statements, in addition to those rejecting and abandoning the international conference concept, signify a U.S. desire to shut out the Soviet Union and other international parties from the Middle East political arena.

In the aftermath of these statements, it is self-evident that we should draw a series of conclusions, the foremost of which is the U.S. rejection of any method or approach that does not satisfy the Likud. Hence, the Labor Party's talk about the possibility of convening an international umbrella will disappear, to be replaced by a call for direct bilateral negotiations. One other thing that may be deduced from Shultz' statements is the U.S. Administration's decision to ignore Arab tendencies supporting the convocation of an international conference, especially when the Arab states are concerned these days on focusing on the Gulf region following the escalation of operations conducted by U.S. forces against Iran.

In addition to this, Shultz' statements may have eliminated any chance of convening the international conference or advancing the peace process during the next 2 years due to the U.S. presidential elections and the Israeli Knesset elections scheduled in 1988. Arab leaders who are preparing to hold their extraordinary summit in Amman should take these developments into consideration to keep political and diplomatic infrastructures in the Arab world from suffering total paralysis.

Bank of Israel Governor Sees No Reason To Panic

TA251105 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 25 Oct 87 p 1

[Text] Last week's international stock market crash should have little immediate impact on the local economy which is, in any case, insulated against it, Bank of Israel Governor Bruno told members of the Tel Aviv Industrialists' Club on Friday.

There is no room for panic, said Bruno. The banking system here, together with its foreign branches, are stable, and the foreign currency reserves are better than at any time in the state's history.

To the extent that Israel may be affected, this will depend on the behaviour of the stock exchange here, the governor said.

But Bruno did warn that there was the possibility of a recession in the U.S. which could for a while affect the foreign aid America extends to Israel.

Nabulus Mayor Calls for Municipal Elections

TA231335 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 22 Oct 87 p 1

[Text] *Al-Quds* has learned that at the beginning of this month Nabulus Mayor Hafiz Tuqan, accompanied by members of the municipal council, submitted a memorandum to the town's governor that included a request for holding municipal elections as soon as possible.

Nabulus Palestinian News Agency Ordered Closed

TA251730 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] Major General 'Amram Mitzna', commander of the Central Command, has ordered a Nabulus-based Palestinian news agency to close for 2 years. The *Al-Quds* agency is owned and run by Muhammad 'Abdallah Muhammad 'Amirah, a resident of Kafr Qallil in the Nabulus District. As early as April 1987, after being arrested, 'Amirah admitted to having been in constant touch with PLO activists and to having received money from them. These contacts and activities were conducted through the news agency. 'Amirah's wife, Khiyat, continued his contacts with the PLO during his administrative detention. It is because of these contacts that the news agency was closed today for a period of 2 years.

New Arrangements Made for Pilgrims to Mecca

TA221103 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 22 Oct 87 p 4

[Report by Yo'el Dar]

[Text] Nazareth—New arrangements will enable Israel Moslems to go to Mecca for pilgrimage twice year.

'Amos Gelbou, a senior adviser to the Interior Ministry dealing with Arab affairs, said this week that his ministry had received official approval from Jordan and Saudi Arabia whereby these two countries would issue permits to Israeli Arab Moslems to visit Mecca in two separate periods each year, one in the traditional season which falls on the eve of 'Id-al-adha feast and the other in March.

Reportage on Algerian Foreign Minister Visit

Arrives in Amman 25 Oct

JN251526 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] Algerian Foreign Minister Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi arrived in Amman today on a 2-day visit to Jordan. During the visit, he will meet with His Majesty King Husayn and senior Jordanian officials. He will also hold talks with Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri.

Dr Ibrahimi said that he will convey a message to His Majesty King Husayn from his brother, Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid, on the extraordinary Arab summit to be held in Amman on 8 November. He added that the Algerian leadership hopes the summit will treat the topics it discusses seriously and responsibly, whether the subject is the Arab-Israeli conflict, our major cause of the Palestinian question, or the Iraq-Iran war and its developments.

The Algerian minister greeted the Jordanian people and said: While we are about to celebrate the 33d anniversary of the Algerian revolution, I would like to mention the Algerian people's love for and appreciation of the fraternal Jordanian people. We in Algeria do not forget our brothers in Jordan, who supported our cause.

The Algerian foreign minister was received at Amman airport by Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri, the Algerian ambassador in Amman, and a number of Foreign Ministry officials. Ibrahimi is accompanied by a delegation that includes a number of officials from the Algerian Foreign Ministry.

Begins Talks

JN251545 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] A meeting was held at the Foreign Ministery today between the Jordanian side led by Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri and the Algerian side led by Foreign Minister Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi. During the meeting, the two sides discussed preparations for the extraordinary Arab summit to be held in Amman on 8 November. They also discussed ways to guarantee its success and to produce results bolstering Arab solidarity and unifying their stands on the proposed issues. The two sides reviewed recent developments in the Middle East crisis and the results of efforts being made to hold an international conference for peace to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Attending the meeting for Jordan was Nabih al-Nimr, secretary general of the Jordanian Foreign Ministry, and Dr Nasir al-Batayinah, director of the Political Department of the Foreign Ministry. Algeria was represented by their ambassador in Amman and members of the accompanying delegation.

Received by King Husayn

JN251901 Amman Television Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, the Algerian foreign minister, at Al-Nadwah Palace this evening. The guest conveyed a message from President Chadli Bendjedid to his brother, His Majesty King Husayn, on the upcoming Arab summit scheduled to be held in Amman on 8 November. The meeting was attended by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, Royal Court Chief Marwan al-Qasim, Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri, and the Algerian ambassador in Amman.

Departs 26 Oct

JN261149 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1100 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Excerpt] Algerian Foreign Minister Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi left Amman this morning, ending a 2-day visit to Jordan. [passage omitted]

British Military Delegation Leaves Amman

JN231539 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] Amman—General Sir Nigel Bagnall, chief of the General Staff of the British Army, and his wife left Amman this evening after an official visit to Jordan lasting several days. During the visit, he met with a number of military officials and visited several military and cultural sites. He was seen off at Amman Civil Airport by Staff Lieutenant General Fathi Abu Talib, chief of staff; his two assistants for planning, operations, and training; the commander of the Royal Jordanian Air Force; and the British ambassador and military attache in Amman.

Al-Lawzi, Al-Fayiz Reply to King's Speech

JN241800 [Editorial Report] Amman Domestic Service in Arabic at 1120 GMT on 24 October carries within its "Newsreel" program recordings of a 20-minute speech by Senate Speaker Ahmad al-Lawzi and a 14-minute speech by House of Representatives Speaker 'Akif al-Fayiz in reply to the king's speech from the throne inaugurating Parliament on 10 October. Both speeches were read in the king's presence at the Royal Hashemite Court on 24 October.

In his address, Al-Lawzi pledges support for the king's policy and praises Jordan's progress in all fields under his leadership. He says that preserving Jordan's internal and external security is a top priority in the Jordanian system. He adds: "The threats and challenges to the homeland are mainly represented by the continuation of the oppressive Israeli occupation of the occupied Arab territories, its denial of legitimate Palestinian rights, and its indulgence in its arbitrary measures."

Al-Lawzi praises the government's efforts in terms of economic reforms in the country, inter-Arab cooperation, and the West Bank development plan. He says that the government's efforts and Jordan's commitments require financial assistance from Arab countries. He adds: "The Jordanian Senate calls on sisterly Arab states to respond to the call of national duty toward Jordan, which is truly regarded as these states' first line of confrontation."

Al-Lawzi then praises King Husayn's efforts to realize Arab solidarity and convene an Arab summit in Amman and wishes the summit success. He also praises the king's efforts to convene an international conference for peace in the Middle East and denounces Israel's intransigent attitude toward peace.

Al-Lawzi describes as wise the king's decision to extend the Jordanian House of Representatives mandate for 2 more years to give more time for the process of preparing and registering for election. He says: "The Senate supports this step and hails Your Majesty's care to expand the popular, democratic participation in exercising duties and shouldering responsibilities."

In conclusion, Al-Lawzi pledges to the king that the Senate will cooperate with the government.

In his speech, House of Representatives Speaker 'Akif al-Fayiz praises the cooperation between the government and Parliament. He also praises the government's efforts to implement the king's instructions. He lauds Jordan's domestic and foreign achivements and hopes the government will strengthen the Armed Forces in all fields. He adds: "The House believes that the efforts to train the popular Army will bear fruit so that this Army will become as you want it to be; namely, a strong support for the Armed Forces, enjoying the same training and characterized by the same alertness."

Al-Fayiz praises Jordan's progress in all fields, especially in education, health, agriculture, and energy. He lauds the government's efforts in this latter field, as well as its efforts in oil exploration and in seeking other alternatives of energy. He says: "The House would like to praise the government's great efforts prompted by your instructions to reach an agreement with the government of the sisterly Syrian Arab Republic to exploit the Al-Yarmuk River waters and establish the long-awaited Al-Wahdah Dam, which has been a great dream for more than 30 years."

Al-Fayiz voiced support for the king's policy on the Palestinian issue and the Iraq-Iran war and the king's efforts to convene an international conference for peace in the Middle East. He also expressed the House's support for the king's decision to expand the mandate of the current parliament for 2 more years.

Concluding, Al-Fayiz pledges to cooperate with the government. He expresses gratitude toward and allegiance to the king, adding that the House of Representatives will continue to be guided by the king's instructions.

Shultz Tour Designed 'To Freeze' Peace Process

JN261001 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
26 Oct 87 pp 1, 24

[Editorial: "Obstacles To Peace"]

[Text] Observers have described the outcome of George Shultz' visit to the Middle East and the Soviet Union as a failure. If we have reservations about this description, it is to say that Shultz' goals in the Middle East were achieved and that his goals in Moscow have failed. The U.S. secretary of state did not come to the Middle East to push the peace process forward one single step. Had he wanted this or had the U.S. Administration wanted it, then it would have been done by Washington and without any need for a tour of the region. But what Shultz and the U.S. Administration wanted to do was exert further efforts to empty the international conference idea of its content. They have been successful in this regard.

What we mean by successful here is that Shultz' tour has consolidated the stalemate in the peace efforts. This stalemate was caused by the Israeli positions which reject the international conference idea and which insist on direct bilateral relations provided there is no commitment to respect international legitimacy or accept implementation of UN Security Council resolutions, which demand Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories.

Although Shultz failed to convince the Arab parties of what he brought with him, he succeeded, on the other hand, in confirming that the U.S. and Israeli views toward the settlement efforts are identical. Shultz went further than this and dodged the truth by blaming the Soviet Union for the failure to achieve peace in the region. He refrained from referring to the Zionist entity's direct and full responsibility.

Therefore, in the U.S. and Israeli view, Shultz' tour has been successful. This tour was not designed to push forward the peace process but to freeze it. It was not designed to surmount the obstacles facing current efforts but to increase them. This in fact is what the tour actually achieved. Therefore, we say that the United States and the Israeli entity bear an important and grave responsibility for the deadlock in the peace efforts. This implies disrespect for international legitimacy, UN resolutions, and principles of justice and peace. What is tragic is that this is happening publicly without either side refraining from evading facts or even trying to falsify them.

Murphy Arrives on Visit, Meets With Al-Huss

NC231332 Beirut Domestic Service inArabic 1130 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state, arrived in Beirut at noon today. He immediately visited acting Prime Minister Salim al-Huss. U.S. Ambassador John Kelly also attended the meeting.

At the end of the visit, which lasted 1 and 1/4 hours, the U.S. envoy said: The objective of my visit is to hold talks with the acting prime minister and the president on the current state of affairs in this country and on the possibility of helping Lebanon attain not only a stable situation but a better situation. The talks also aim at unifying the Lebanese for a better future.

Asked if he is mediating between Damascus and the [Lebanese] presidential palace, Murphy said: No. He added: I have been visiting capitals but this does not necessarily mean mediation. I do not want to stay long.

Soon afterward, Murphy left for B'abda and held a meeting with President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil. The meeting is still in progress. Attending the meeting are former Minister Dr Elie Salim and U.S. Ambassador John Kelly.

Meets Al-Jumayyil; Departs

NC231335 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Excerpts] The first round of discussions between President Amin al-Jumayyil and Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state, ended at 1400 this afternoon. Following this round Murphy said that he has a lot to discuss with the president. The discussions were resumed during lunch and they ended at 1445. [passage omitted]

Murphy left Beirut for Larnaca at 1500.

GDR Foreign Ministry Official Meets Al-Huss

NC231428 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] Reiner Neumann, director of the GDR Foreign Ministry's Near East and Middle East Department, arrived in Beirut today. Accompanied by GDR Ambassador Horst Lindner, Neumann visited Salim al-Huss, acting prime minister and foreign minister, at his house at 1230.

After the meeting, the visiting GDR official said: We discussed with Prime Minister Salim al-Huss issues of interest to both our countries. The views were identical on all issues discussed.

Birri Amends Terms of Camps War Initiative

NC231529 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1400 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] The camps issue was discussed today by [Amal Movement leader] Nabih Birri and Lakhdar al-Ibrahimi, Arab League assistant secretary general.

After the meeting, Birri said: We told Brother al-Ibrahimi about the developments in our initiative since we announced it on 30 August 1987. We informed him of the stand which was taken by the Amal Movement's Political Bureau yesterday.

In accordance with this stand, we have no objection to the complete implementation of the initiative within a period of 2 or 3 days. It is known that we have so far stipulated that a withdrawal from east of Sidon should take place on the first day.

However, on this occasion, to display its seriousness and goodwill, the Political Bureau decided it would have no objection if the plan were to begin with the entry of various food and medical supplies into the camps on the first day.

On the second day, the withdrawal from east of Sidon would be accompanied by the establishment of joint posts manned by two representatives of the popular committees, two representative of the Amal Movement, and two representatives of the internal security forces or the brother Syrians. On the third and last day, reconstruction will begin, both within the camps and in the areas around them.

Birri said: This new plan adopted by the Political Bureau has been conveyed to the Amal representative at today's meeting in Sidon.

Birri Warns Against Any Government Changes

NC231722 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] Minister Nabih Birri has warned against any change in the government. In a statement made today, he said such a change would be of no avail. Birri added he is prepared to participate in the Arab summit if a special invitation is addressed to him, but not as a member of a Lebanese delegation.

Ja'ja' Reportedly Behind Karami Assassination

NC250909 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Excerpt] The Lebanese Forces Executive Committee, led by Elie Hubayqah, has revealed serious information on the involvement of the Forces of [Lebanese Forces commander] Ja'ja' in assassination operations, foremost among them the assassination of Prime Minister Rashid Karami.

These revelations came in a statement by Hubayqah, read by his brother Charles, at a news conference at the Channel 7 Television building. The statement noted that following Samir Ja'ja"s failure to pressure Karami to tender his resignation, a decision was made to kill him. A team was recruited that included: Pierre Rizq, head of the Intelligence Department; Ghassan Tuma, head of the Security Service; and 'Afif Khuri, commander of the Naval Forces [of the Lebanese Forces].

The statement added that Pierre Rizq had recruited agents to monitor the movements of Karami, while 'Afif Khuri studied his [Karami's] helicopter route. Tuma recruited Private Fakhri Ilyas Sham'un, a mechanic at Adma Airbase from the village of Sir'in in Al-Biqa', to place the explosive device behind Karami's seat in the helicopter.

'Afif Khuri was assigned the task of selecting the appropriate location to spot the helicopter and detonate the explosives by remote control. [passage omitted]

Ulema Threaten Suicide Operations Against U.S.
NC231904 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] The Lebanese Muslim Ulema Association issued a statement today on the 4th anniversary of the suicide operations carried out by Lebanese Muslim revolutionaries against U.S. Marines and French paratroopers in Beirut.

The statement called on Muslim mujahidin throughout the world to emulate these jihad operations and achieve their high objectives. It said that these suicide operations had compelled the United States to flee Lebanon. The arrogant states, therefore, must expect several operations of a similar kind, the statement added.

The statement praised the steadfastness of the Iranian people in their direct confrontation with the United States and its allies. It stressed that this confrontation has revealed the truth about the war imposed on the Islamic revolution.

Tawhid Leader Warns Rulers on Siding With U.S.
LD240940 Tehran IRNA in English 0846 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] Beirut, Oct. 24, IRNA—The head of the Islamic Tawhid Movement, Sheikh Sa'id Sha'ban, speaking in Friday prayer congregation of the northern Lebanese port of Tripoli raised the issue of U.S. intervention in the Persian Gulf and warned reactionary rulers of the region of consequences of siding with the United States.

Those leaders who have turned away from Islam and rule through U.S. backing, he stressed, should realise that oppressors are unable to assist them. Ineffectiveness of the U.S. fleets in the Persian Gulf waters is a proof of this fact, he stressed.

Further in the sermon Sheikh Sha'ban reiterated these leaders will not benefit from putting their resources at the service of the U.S. and turning their back on Islam.

Islam, he told the worshippers, is the only means of liberation of nations from the yokes of dominant powers and that it is time that Arabs return to Islam and use their resources for encountering foes of Islam rather than aiding them.

On U.S. presence in the Persian Gulf, he said it will suffer the same fate it did in Lebanon and it will experience another failure.

Meanwhile addressing the Friday prayer congregation of Beirut [he] talked about concern of world oppressors over the wrath of Islamic nation.

These powers have mobilised their forces throughout the world for they know that if the Islamic Republic of Iran has warned them of responding to their aggression, it will do so accordingly.

The Muslims must not be fearful of the U.S. and as in the past believe in victory of the faithful over unbelievers. Military actions and political pressure of the oppressors have failed to make the Lebanese people surrender. Therefore, he concluded, the new plot against Muslims will fail.

Islamic Amal Leader on U.S. Aggression in Gulf
NC231922 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] Husayn al-Musawi, alias Abu Hisham, leader of the Islamic Amal Movement in Lebanon, has criticized the regimes of Egypt, Jordan, Tunisia, Morocco, and the Persian Gulf states, saying these regimes have preferred the front of the infidels to the government of justice in Iran. These states have supported U.S. aggression against Iranian oil installations, he said.

Al-Musawi stressed that the United States was beaten and defeated in Lebanon at the hands of one young man who was a follower of Imam Husayn, may God be pleased with him. This same United States is now facing thousands of followers of Imam Husayn in the Persian Gulf, who will inflict an even bigger defeat on the United States, he declared.

Al-Musawi added that the mujahidin followers of Imam Husayn, may God be pleased with them, will rid the countries of the world of the cancerous U.S. gland.

Fadlallah Gives Friday Prayer Sermon in Beirut
LD232018 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] The glorious Friday prayers ceremony in Beirut today was led by Al-'Allamah Sayyid Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah at the city's Imam Reza Mosque.

peace be upon him, and was attended by people from various muslim strata of Lebanon. In his sermon before the prayers, Al-'Allamah Seyyed Muhammad Hoseyn Fadlallah, referring to the plots of the international infidels aimed at forcing the Islamic Republic of Iran into collusion, said:

The Islamic revolution stems from pure Islam. It has risen to fight the enemy from a position of strength and not weakness by relying on the slogan: Imam Hoseyn, peace be upon him! Iran's strong treatment in the matter of the U.S. aggression against her oil platforms created a great deal of fear in the United States, to the extent that in addition to undertaking special measures in all the organizations of this country across the world, they sent a message to the Islamic Republic promising this to be the last blow.

In another part of his sermon, he condemned the mobilization of U.S. and Western forces in the Persian Gulf region, adding: The United States has not come to this region to ensure the safety of shipping. It plans to establish control over this region. Since the Iranians consider the Persian Gulf region to be the property of the Muslims, they have risen to oppose the U.S. occupation of this region.

Continuing his sermon, Al-'Allamah Fadlallah said: If the United States really wants to ensure safety of shipping, then why do its allies attack Iranian ships? This act of theirs shows that they want to rule over and demean the Muslims. Therefore, we announce that the U.S. plan is to oppose Islam and the Muslims. Thus it is necessary to fight the enemy's plans with strong feeling and determination.

Israeli Aircraft Hit Sidon Palestinian Camp

NC241056 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] At noon today Israeli warplanes raided the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp for 5 minutes, causing heavy material damage and an unknown number of casualties.

Syrians Intensify Security in West Beirut

NC251514 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1445 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] Syrian forces have intensified security precautions and arrest campaigns in West Beirut. AFP reports this new initiative was taken following last Thursday's [22 October] major attack against Syrian forces in Saqiyat al-Janzir during which one Syrian officer was killed and another wounded.

Citing a Syrian military source, AFP adds the new wave of violence is connected with the situation in the region on the eve of the emergency Arab summit. It points out that more than 175 explosive devices have gone off in West Beirut streets since the Syrians entered Lebanon [as heard] particularly in April and May.

Blast Destroys Shaykh's Car, Injures Driver

NC260944 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Text] An explosive device this morning destroyed the car of Shaykh 'Abd al-Husayn al-'Abdallah [not further identified] parked on Mu'awwad Street in the southern suburb [of Beirut]. The driver was seriously wounded.

Reportage on Visit by Algeria's Ibrahimi

Arrives in Damascus

JN241704 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1510 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] Damascus, 24 Oct (SANA)—Algerian Foreign Minister Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi arrived in Damascus this afternoon on a visit. He was received at Damascus International Airport by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'.

In a statement shortly before arrival, Ibrahimi said his visit to Damascus comes within the framework of the policy of consultations adopted by Syria and Algeria. It also comes before the extraordinary Arab summit which will be held in Amman. Ibrahimi added that the items listed on the summit's agenda, which include the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Iraq-Iran war, and the situation in Lebanon, require a unified Arab stand. Syrian-Algerian dialogue before this summit is useful, he added.

In conclusion, Ibrahimi said he carries a message of love and appreciation to the Syrian Arab people, the Syrian leadership, and His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad from the Algerian people and leadership and President Chadli Bendjedid.

Received by Khaddam, Al-Shar'

JN241935 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] Damascus—Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Algerian Foreign Minister Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi and his accompanying delegation at 1915 this evening. The Algerian ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting. During the meeting they discussed the region's situation and developments and subjects of concern in the Arab world.

This evening Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received Ibrahimi and his delegation. Djedri Moubarek, Algerian ambassador in Damascus, attended the meeting. During the meeting they discussed the current situation in the Arab world in light of the extraordinary Arab summit in Amman next month.

Meets Al-Asad, Departs

JN251208 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Algerian Foreign Minister Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi at 1130 today. Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and the Algerian ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting. Talks revolved around the region's developments and general Arab affairs.

The Algerian foreign minister left Damascus at 1400 GMT today following a 2-day visit to Syria. He was seen off at Damascus International Airport by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', Foreign Ministry Protocol Chief 'Abd al-Hasib al-Ustuwani, the Algerian ambassador in Damascus, and the Algerian Embassy staff.

Further on Al-Asad Meeting

JN251844 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] Damascus—President Hafiz al-Asad received Algerian Foreign Minister Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi at 1130 tdoay. Ibrahimi conveyed to Al-Asad a message from Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid. Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and the Algerian ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting. Talks dealt with the region's developments and general Arab affairs. Ibrahimi left Damascus this afternoon.

Al-Ahmar Receives Hungarian Party Delegation

JN241220 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Excerpts] Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, received a delegation of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party [MSZMP], led by Comrade Gyorgy Sikula, Central Committee member and secretary of the party committee in Hajdu-Bihar Province.

They discussed developing cooperation between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the MSZMP and enforcing the cooperation agreement between the friendly parties. They expressed satisfaction with the progress of these ties in the interests of the common struggle of the peoples of the two countries. [passage omitted]

Comrade Sikula emphasized the support of his party and country for the causes of the Arab struggle. He expressed appreciation for Syria's principled posture on regional developments under the leadership of struggler President Hafiz al-Asad. Sikula also stressed an identity of Syrian and Hungarian views on confronting hostile policies and striving for just peace globally and in this region.

CSSR Official Meets With Ministry Officials

JN251600 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] Damascus—Dr (Josef Chazik), CSSR deputy interior minister, today lauded the relations of friendship and cooperation between Syria and the CSSR whose foundations were laid by Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and Gustav Husak. This came in the joint meeting held by the Syrian Arab and CSSR sides at the Ministry of Local Administration this morning. The two sides reviewed bilateral relations in the field of local administration as well as ways to enhance and promote them. They also discussed the implementation of the protocol signed between the two friendly countries in this regard.

People's Assembly Questions Industry Minister

JN252003 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] The People's Assembly this evening met under Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi. The meeting was attended by General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Army and Armed Forces, deputy prime minister, and minister of defence, and a number of ministers.

During this session, Industry Minister 'Ali al-Tarabulusi was interpellated on the issue of machinery imported for use by the General Cement Corporation. The interpellation was conducted by Assembly Member 'Arif al-Haj Yusuf. The following is highlights of the interpellation:

The interpellation begins with remarks on the importance of the Assembly's role in exposing mistakes and negative aspects and contributing toward combating corruption, dissipation, waste, and mismanagement of mass and government establishments. The member of the Assembly said: I asked to question the industry minister on the machinery, equipment, and vehicles which were bought for the Cement Corporation in contravention of normal practice, resulting in harm done to the national economy. The reasons for this interpellation are very clear, supported by figures and documents attached with the special report.

He said the prime minister agreed to purchase the vehicles in light of the available funds and the economic plan. The prime minister's agreement was subject to the condition that the purchase should be done using vehicles that had become the property of the Customs Department.

He said that on 25 June 1986 the industry minister sent a letter to the defense minister in which he requested his agreement to allow his ministry and its establishments to purchase 40 forklifts of various types and 47 vehicles necessary for promoting production. These would be taken from those available with the establishment for military construction. The industry minister also said he would take the appropriate measures with the parties concerned after the agreement was granted. The defense minister noted on this letter the following: To the Military Construction Establishments: Approved.

In general, the agreement the Industry Ministry obtained was dated 1 July 1986 and was intended to cover this deal. This deal proved to have been reached several months before this agreement. The vehicles had arrived at the port at least 5 months before the agreement. Part of the equipment was transferred on 18 June 1986, that is, before the agreement.

In view of the report by the fact-finding committee to investigate the purchase of machinery, equipment, and vehicles—a report which showed differences between the actual prices and the prices at which the machinery, vehicles, and equipment were purchased—and to obtain satisfactory information on the prices and price difference, the committee sought the help of an engineer from a vehicle company. He was asked under oath to obtain the world prices for the purchased vehicles and machinery.

The report included confessions by the industry minister who said: I have followed the methods of all other establishments. He gave as an example the General Railways Corporation. He asked:

Why is an investigation committee formed for me and not for others? I am empowered to purchase in the amount of 10 million. I have divided the amount among several companies. I have 100 companies. This makes the purchase within my powers. I instructed the president of the General Cement Corporation to purchase from the Military Constructions Corporation after securing the approval of the defense minister. I do not know the seller, except that it is one of the Defense Ministry's establishments. I obtained the defense minister's agreement by hand without registering it in the ministry's office. I did not discuss prices or delivery. I did not inform the Cabinet of this deal.

Answering a question on how he was given the machinery without paying their price, the minister said: That is how we dealt. I admit that I contravened the rules and regulations but the main aim was to enhance work.

The Assembly then heard the minister's reply to the interpellation. He reviewed the industrial public sector's need for the vehicles and mentioned a letter exchanged between the Industry Ministry and the Prime Minister's Office, and other parties concerned with the aim of securing the needed machinery. This could not be attained and he was forced to send a letter to the Defense Ministry requesting an approval for the purchase of machinery and forklifts. He also related efforts exerted by officials in the ministry to obtain these items. The Assembly then heard a number of observations on the committee's report. The Assembly member was not satisfied with the answer.

Three members spoke opposing the interpellation. Two other members spoke in support of the interpellation. The interpellator insisted that he was not convinced by the minister's answer and asked that the Assembly's confidence be witheld from the minister in accordance with the Assembly's bylaws.

Paper Says U.S. Stock Market Crash 'Expected'

JN230720 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 23 Oct 87

[From the press review]

[Text] In its news report on the U.S. economic bloodbath experienced by Europe and Japan, the newspaper *Al-Thawrah* notes the dimensions and causes of the financial quake as well as the reason behind the record drop in

share prices and the sharp decline in the dollar's value in all world stock markets on Monday and Tuesday. The paper says: What happened was expected, especially since the U.S. economy is suffering from deterioration and inflation. The U.S. aggression against Iran had a profound effect on speeding up the timing of the financial crisis inflicted on the capitalist system led by Washington.

What actually took place, according to politicians' analysis, was a logical and even an inevitable result of a series of policies which have characterized Reagan's term in office. Most prominent of such policies on the political level is the increasing world tension caused by encouragment of the arms race, and, on the economic level, the weakening of the bases of the Western monetary system, which is linked to the dollar, along with the weakening of the international system as a result of the strong ties between these systems.

Moreover, this is due to the adoption of several economic and financial measures by the Reagan administration aimed at combating economic deterioration, confronting the large trade deficit, and protecting U.S. industries vis-a-vis the severe competition previously experienced by West Europe and Japan in particular.

Lebanese President's Visit to Cairo Criticized

JN261008 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 26 Oct

[From the press review]

[Text] On recent developments in Lebanon, *Tishrin* says: The Lebanese crisis should have ended 2 years ago. In addition, by now the sister country should have achieved national reconciliation and regained its prominent civilized and economic role in the region. However, nothing was achieved as a result of the convergence of the hostile efforts to obstruct the reconciliation process, strike at the Lebanese economy, and spread fear among the sons of the one homeland. Today Lebanon is on the brink of a catastrophe and citizens' living conditions have deteriorated dramatically. Instead of tackling this tragic situation, we find that the [Lebanese] president is in Cairo searching for a solution with the Camp David regime.

Tishrin adds: It has become known to everyone that the Lebanese crisis is internal and that a solution can be reached through dialogue among the disputing parties to formulate denominators to achieve a national solution that will uproot the crisis and lay down new principles based on justice and equality among citizens. However, some officials in the sister country insist on searching for external solutions: One time with Shultz and another with Mubarak. It is known that the Americans realized before anyone else that the key to a solution is inside Lebanon not outside it. Perhaps the Americans told those who came seeking help from them of this fact.

The national dialogue stopped more than 2 years ago. They [Lebanese officials] did not move to activate national dialogue. They in fact praised all criminal acts to obstruct this dialogue and put the authority's tools at the disposal of the enemies of Lebanon—the grudgers, the separatists, and advocates of fragmentation, isolation, and Zionism.

Consequently, we see assassinations, criminal acts, escalations in the situation, blows to reconciliatory efforts, and attempts to entrench divisions among Lebanese, even among the sons of the one city as is the case now in Beirut. Meanwhile, the mercenaries raise their shouts against Syria, which has always offered honest help to the fraternal country and which is safeguarding Lebanese security in the areas under the control of its forces.

Concluding, *Tishrin* says: The attempts to sow sedition and to spread clouds of despair will not succeed. The Lebanese have known who their enemy is and also their friend. When they call for the Syrian forces they know the Syrians are the only guarantor of their future amid the plotters' tampering with their security, homeland, livelihood, and property.

'Arafat Role Labeled 'Mere Toy' for Israelis

JN251525 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1220 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] Damascus, 25 Oct (SANA)—The newspaper *Tishrin* has said 'Arafat's announcement he is ready to meet with any Israeli official in fact declares the truth of his line and the objectives of his policy. It also exposes the dimensions of his role and the dangers this role poses to the Palestine question which 'Arafat is disavowing. 'Arafat is also shedding the Palestinian people's blood in Lebanon to appease the enemy and its protectors.

In an editorial today under the headline "The Fall of the Last Mask," the paper adds that in the past few years 'Arafat extended numerous services to Israel both in Lebanon and in the Arab world in general. He did so to gain a negotiating position enabling him to present himself as the Palestinian Arab people's representative. 'Arafat, however, failed to achieve this objective.

The paper says 'Arafat's stooping so low has only brought him further humiliation and contempt. Even after he has given them everything he has, the pillars of the Israeli Government have rejected 'Arafat's role as a mere toy. The enemy leaders also rejected him after making sure that betting on 'Arafat means betting on a mirage. This is because 'Arafat represents only himself, as our Palestinian Arab people within and outside the occupied homeland removed 'Arafat from their calculations forever after he handed the rifle over to the enemy.

Tishrin adds: With the approach of the Arab summit, 'Arafat returns to the scene and tells news agencies he is ready to meet with the ruling pillars in Tel Aviv to mix the cards and aggravate the situation. He announces this

also to say he still exists and that he is the difficult figure, as he likes to describe himself. The paper affirms that 'Arafat's statement shows that the last mask has fallen from the policy of deviation and defeat. This statement, however, will not affect the course of events because 'Arafat is unable to take the initiative nor is he able to appease the leaders of Washington and Tel Aviv to allow him to join the Al-Sadat course and the capitulationist policy.

'Arafat is also unable to mix cards because matters have become crystal clear and also because the Arab cause is not subject to personal bargaining. Moreover, the Palestine question does not belong to individuals but rather to the entire Arab people who will make the final decision.

In conclusion, the paper says that 'Arafat's desire to enter history through the same gate through which Al-Sadat entered will only lead him down the same road as Al-Sadat. Our Arab people in general and the Palestinian people in particular will not forgive the traitors for their crime against the Arab nation's central cause. History will prove that only the fighting rifle will protect the legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arab people and that our people will reject those who sell out these rights.

Afghanistan

Czechoslovak Energy Minister, Delegation Visit

Hold Talks With Wakil

LD221004 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0451 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] Kabul, October 21, *Bakhtar*: 'Abdul Wakil, Politburo member of the PDPA CC and minister of foreign affairs of the DRA met with Vlastimil Ehrenberger minister of fuels and energy of the Socialist Republic of Czechoslovakia and chairman of the Czechoslovak-Afghan Joint Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation on October 20.

During the meeting the fruitful cooperations existing between the two countries during the years after the victory of the April Revolution was assessed positive and views were exchanged on further expansion of relations and cooperation between the two countries.

Confer With Keshtmand

LD221009 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0503 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] Kabul, October 21, *Bakhtar*: Sultan 'Ali Keshtmand, Politburo member of the PDPA CC and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA met with Vlastimil Ehrenberger minister of fuel and energy of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic heading a high-ranking Czechoslovak [delegation] here today.

During the meeting which took place in a complete friendly atmosphere, matters on further expansion of mutual economic and cultural cooperations between the two countries were discussed.

Vlastimil Ehrenberger is heading a delegation in the fourth round of Czechoslovak-Afghan joint commission talks on economic, trade, culture, scientific and technical cooperation.

Received by Najibullah

LD242000 Prague CTK in English 1418 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] Kabul, Oct 24 (CTK correspondent)—Afghan People's Democratic Party General Secretary and Revolutionary Council Presidium Chairman Najibullah today received Czechoslovak representatives who are visiting Afghanistan on the occasion of the anniversary of the signing of the first treaty of friendship between the two countries fifty years ago.

The Czechoslovak representatives were Fuel and Power Minister Vlastimil Ehrenberger and National Front Deputy Chairman Tomas Travnicek.

Najibullah told the guests about the results of a recent conference of the People's Democratic Party which, he said, helped to increase the party's authority in society. He spoke about the process of increasing democracy in Afghanistan and noted that the supreme jergah was to meet soon to approve a new constitution and elect a president.

The Afghan leader highly praised the assistance Czechoslovakia is providing to Afghanistan, for instance in the development of industry and personnel training. He stressed that Czechoslovakia is Afghanistan's largest trade partner after the Soviet Union.

Vlastimil Ehrenberger told the Afghan representative about the results of the 4th session of the Czechoslovak-Afghan Commission for Economic, Trade and Scientific-Technological Cooperation.

He said that Czechoslovakia sought to extend rational and effective assistance to Afghanistan. He praised the effort of the Afghan people to ensure peace in the country through national reconciliation and described this policy as the only feasible solution to the situation.

Afghanistan's national reconciliation was also praised by Tomas Travnicek who said that the Czechoslovak National Front planned to extend humanitarian assistance to the Afghan people.

Further Reports on PDPA Conference Activities

Text of Wakil Address

LD221803 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1730 GMT 19 Oct 87

[Speech by 'Abdul Wakil, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and DRA foreign minister, to the second nationwide PDPA Conference in Kabul on 19 October—recorded]

[Text] Comrade Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, and comrade delegates to the second conference of our party:

Today, from behind this tribune, and at this very important and historic moment when the nationwide conference of our beloved party is being convened, I would like to present a brief report on the realities and developments of the DRA's foreign policy to you esteemed delegates of the conference.

The PDPA and the DRA Government, through their consistent and comprehensive efforts, are acting decisively and with awareness for the realization of the policy of peaceful coexistance, friendship among the peoples, nonalignment, the UN Charter, and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in view of the objective need for the immediate cessation of the imperialist undeclared war and foreign interference in the internal

affairs of our country. They have placed at the top of their list the urgent task of ensuring lasting peace and the stability of the situation in the region. These have organizational links with the interests of our society and the peoples of the region, and with the principles of the peace-loving policy of the DRA.

The PDPA Central Committee and the DRA Revolutionary Council and Government are paying constant attention to the foreign policy affairs of the country.

The main directions of the DRA's foreign policy—putting into practice international aspects of national reconciliation, the political solution of the situation around Afghanistan, and the Geneva talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan—are under the constant control of the party and state leadership.

As a result of its history and traditions, Afghanistan has been and always will be a country with national sovereignty; it will be an independent, neutral, and active member of the Nonaligned Movement. These principles have now been precisely reflected and enshrined in the DRA draft constitution.

Comrades, compared with previous decades, our world is facing radical changes. Today there is no more urgent task than the efforts being made to secure the annihilation of deadly nuclear weapons, curb the arms race, and ensure a universal system of security. Preventing the deployment of nuclear weapons, particularly in outer space and on the seabeds, as well as the struggle against war-mongering doctrines—all these can reduce the danger of drawing the world to the brink of a nuclear conflict.

We support decisively and principally the proposals of the USSR concerning the creation of a universal, international security system in the military, political, and economic fields and the humanitarian relations put forward by the 27th CPSU Congress, the 15 January 1986 declaration by Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, the July 1986 declaration in Vladivostok, and the Delhi declaration. [applause]

The recent agreements between the USSR and the United States with regard to the dismantling of medium- and short-range missiles have created hopes for further agreement on disarmament; they have created the expectation that steps will be taken to ensure lasting and just peace in the world.

Dear Comrades, the victory of the April Revolution, and the DRA's position in the international arena are being consolidated day by day, despite the stubborn resistance of imperialism and reaction in isolating our country.

The years of revolution, especially after the 18th Plenum and the declaration of the national reconciliation policy in the country, have had great results and consequences for the foreign policy of our country. During these years, the DRA has enjoyed further credibility, recognition, and prestige in the international arena.

In the course of time, the DRA's foreign policy activity has acquired a dynamic and constructive character. Our country currently has diplomatic relations with more than 80 countries.

The Foreign Ministry, as the organ responsible for the implementation of the country's foreign policy under the leadership of the PDPA Central Committee, the Politburo, and Dr Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, has made all possible efforts in this direction. These efforts now have acquired fresh momentum and have expanded into broader dimensions.

The goals and principles of the DRA's foreign policy are quite clear and have won the support of the people.

The developing relations with our great northern neighbor, the Soviet Union, constitute one of the primary and basic principles of our country's foreign policy, which fully coincides with the national interests of the two countries.

The history of relations between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union manifests the fact that relations and cooperation between the two countries are not limited to economic, technical, and cultural exchanges and cooperation. The Soviet Union has always supported the DRA's foreign policy stand. The Soviet Union's attitude toward Afghanistan has always stemmed from the idea that the existence of a free, independent, and nonaligned Afghanistan, friendly to the Soviet Union, conforms with the interests of the people of the two countries and of peace in the region and in the world. By realizing the above, Afghanistan, for its part, has never resorted to an anti-Soviet action in spite of efforts by specific imperialist and reactionary circles to drag our country into an axis hostile to our great northern neighbor. For instance, during World War II the people of Afghanistan, in spite of pressures and demands from Hitler's Germany, did not join in a front against the Soviet Union and preserved its absolute neutrality. Similarly, since World War II, none of the regimes and governments in Afghanistan have joined any of the anti-USSR pacts, despite the efforts of imperialist circles. In addition, the USSR has never invited Afghanistan to join any pact.

The Soviet Union has continued its all-round constructive assistance at the most difficult moments in the history of our country, i.e. at a time when the DRA has become the target of imperialist aggression. Under the conditions of national reconciliation, this assistance is being enriched with new forms of economic, trade, and cultural cooperation with the Soviet Union.

Our relations with other fraternal socialist countries have been promoted to a new qualitative level. Cooperation with countries of the socialist community aimed at realizing the main directions of the country's socioeconomic development is of great importance as well. The DRA, while attaching great importance to this cooperation, considers the expansion and further consolidation of this fraternal and selfless cooperation to be one of its main and undelayable tasks.

The DRA, as an Islamic, neutral, and nonaligned country, strives to expand and improve its relations with the Islamic countries. The relations of our people with the peoples of these countries are deeply rooted in history.

The efforts of the DRA for the restoration of relations with Egypt and Saudi Arabia unfortunately have not brought the desired results. The DRA continues to seek new ways to restore its membership in the ICO. Unfortunately, a number of the member countries of the organization, in spite of our constructive efforts, are creating obstacles to the restoration of the DRA's membership, even though the DRA is and will remain an Islamic country with Muslim people.

The April national democratic revolution and the temporary presence in our country of a limited Soviet military contingent by no means contradict and will not contradict the Islamic nature of the DRA.

We are in favor of improving our relations with our two neighboring countries, Iran and Pakistan. Deep-rooted cultural, historical, and traditional links exist between the peoples of Afghanistan and Iran. We are certain that the consolidation of this friendship will help to strengthen peace and security in our region.

Unfortunately, in spite of our peaceful efforts, the territory of Pakistan is still being used for interference in the internal affairs of the DRA, as well as for the arming, equipping, and military training of extremist elements of the opposition. This situation runs counter to the interests of the peoples of our countries and intensifies tension in our region.

The development of cooperation and friendly relations with our other neighbor, the Republic of India, which is one of the largest Asian countries, enjoys great influence in the region and in the world political arena, and inspires us with hope for broad perspectives. Our relations with India have improved considerably, especially in the trade and economic fields. The contacts of the Afghan side with political and social figures in India have assumed a steady character.

The PRC is also our neighbor. One of the main tasks of our foreign policy is to ensure friendly, good-neighborly relations with this great socialist power of Asia, especially keeping in mind the fact that there are no disputable problems or issues between Afghanistan and China.

As a founding member of the Nonaligned Movement, Afghanistan pays special attention to strengthening traditional relations with other member countries of this movement. These relations are being consolidated with every passing day on the basis of a common anti-imperialist, anticolonialist, and anti-apartheid policy. The DRA will do it best to further deepen and develop these relations. The DRA continues its active role in the Coordination Bureau of the Nonaligned Movement, and in the future as well will seek positive and constructive factors for the expansion of its activities in this movement. The past year testified to the growth of Afghanistan's active role in different gatherings within the framework of the Nonaligned Movement, among which may be mentioned the gatherings in Havana, Pyongyang, Guyana, and Harare.

Tangible developments have appeared in the DRA's participation in the United Nations and in other international organizations. The special reporter of the UN Human Rights Commission paid a visit to the DRA, and we are looking forward to a visit by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. It is worth mentioning that an agreement for the vaccination of children in the territory of Afghanistan was agreed upon with UNICEF recently. The process of developing contacts with the International Committee of the Red Cross is continuing.

The DRA, based on the principles of peaceful coexistence, mutual respect, and noninterference in each other's internal affairs, favors an expansion of relations with developed capitalist countries, including the United States, and for the restoration of full political contacts with these countries.

In the present stage of the April Revolution, the policy of national reconciliation constitutes one of the main aspects of the DRA's foreign policy aimed at creating favorable international conditions for social progress and the peaceful development of Afghan society.

Since the proclamation of the national reconciliation policy, a corresponding change has taken place in our foreign policy and international relations.

The policy of national reconciliation has further promoted the prestige and credibility of the DRA's foreign policy. Not only has it widely reflected the peaceful and noble objectives of the revolutionary power in the international arena, but it has also paved the way for the expansion and development of the DRA's diplomatic relations with other countries around the world.

Comrades, the DRA Ministry of Foreign Affairs, following this principle, has worked purposefully since the proclamation of this policy. In order to establish direct contacts with the leaders of many UN member countries, DRA special goodwill envoys visited 53 Asian, African, Middle Eastern, Latin American, and European countries in July and August of this year. In many of these

countries Afghan delegations were received at the highest levels. Some of these countries intend to send delegations to the DRA during 1987-88 to continue this newly-begun dialogue and to further develop contacts and cooperation in different spheres. The majority of these countries consider the DRA's national reconciliation policy to be deeply humanitarian and the only alternative to war and bloodshed. They expressed their support for this policy and approved of the Geneva talks being held for the political solution of the situation around Afghanistan.

During the current year, diplomatic relations have been established with Zimbabwe and Cyprus and agreements have been reached on opening DRA embassies in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Nicaragua and Austria. Some friendly and nonaligned countries, such as the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and the Syrian Arab Republic, have proposed to open embassies in Kabul. Agreements have been reached on the exchange of nonresident ambassadors with some African and Latin American countries, including Benin, Mozambique, Angola, Ghana, Mali, Burkina Faso, Argentina, and Bolivia. Other countries, including Togo, the Ivory Coast, Liberia, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Zambia, and Panama have agreed in principle to exchange nonresident ambassadors.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in order to promote the DRA's foreign policy on the international level, has made comprehensive and practical efforts. The foreign policy propaganda has become increasingly active and objective. The DRA's political representatives abroad have distributed materials from the extraordinary plenum of the PDPA Central Committee, the extraordinary session of the Revolutionary Council, the declaration of national reconciliation, and other important party and state documents. Special bulletins in this regard have also been published and news conferences arranged.

It is worth mentioning that the following important documents have been circulated as official UN documents: the messages to the UN secretary general on national reconciliation; the DRA proposals on sending to Pakistan and Iran a special delegation composed of representatives from the Supreme Commission for Reconciliation, prominent Afghan social figures, and international organizations in order to visit Afghan refugee camps and learn about their living conditions and of their desire or unwillingness to return home; and DRA proposals on sending chartered passenger planes to these countries to bring home those Afghan refugees who want to be repatriated.

Comrade delegates: The DRA's principled and honest stand at the Geneva talks between the DRA and Pakistan testifies to the fact that the DRA has paid sharp attention to a rapid and just settlement of the situation around Afghanistan and has persistently strived for this by displaying the necessary flexibility, political goodwill, and willingness to settle differences through negotiations. So far the sides have nearly been able to finalize the main documents of a political settlement. Moreover, as a result of the recent round of talks in Geneva, the difference in the two sides's stances has been reduced. If the Pakistani side takes a constructive stand at the talks, one serving its national interests rather than external pressure, and if it displays a genuine will to settle the situation around Afghanistan, then we will be able to settle the remaining differences, including the timeframe for the return of the Soviet limited contingent. The talks can then enter their final round.

The DRA delegation actively participated in the 42d UN General Assembly session and held talks with the foreign ministers of over 23 countries, mainly member states of the Nonaligned Movement, and exchanged views on various regional and international problems. Moreover, the DRA delegation at that session took a constructive position with regard to the resolution on the situation around Afghanistan and expressed its readiness to help work out an effective solution for a rapid settlement of this situation.

Comrades, to attain national reconciliation we must restructure our work norms, both methods and form, so that our diplomacy becomes clearer to the world public. This diplomacy should be active, dynamic, effective, and revolutionary. Solving the cad issue is one of the most fundamental (?and vital) issues in implementing the above-mentioned objectives. In the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the requirements for sincerity to the revolution, loyalty to the cause of the people and the homeland, good character, worthiness, competence, knowledge of one foreign language, and the ethics of the people are being strictly observed in hiring and firing.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs continuously pays attention to the constant guidance, assistance, and attention of the PDPA Central Committee. These play an important part in directing the Ministry's activities. In carrying out its activities and affairs, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has practical contact with the PDPA Central Committee's International Department. The [words indistinct] approach with the performance of this ministry has speeded up and the role of the primary party organization is constantly enhanced in political affairs and in the cadre policy.

Comrade delegates: We know that we have not yet met the demands of the Politburo of the Party Central Committee as we should have. There are many problems and shortcomings in work, and we have not yet succeeded in solving all of them. However, esteemed delegates, the Central Committee and its Politburo, and Comrade Dr Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, I assure you that the party members and all members of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will spare no effort in removing shortcomings and deficiencies.

We will preserve the new momentum that has come to this ministry and further enhance it in order to reach our objectives. The people expect this from us. We should further tighten our party ranks and preserve and consolidate our party unity. This unity should then reflect itself in comradely sincerity, which is a must in party activities, in order to achieve our people's great aspiration as soon as possible: peace across the country. Thank you for your attention. [applause]

Najibullah Closing Speech

LD221607 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1646 GMT 20 Oct 87

[Closing speech by Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, at the 20 October session of the second nationwide PDPA conference in Kabul—recorded]

[Text] Esteemed delegates, dear friends and honored guests: The work of the nationwide party conference is coming to an end. The view on broadening, deepening, and accelerating the unswerving course of national reconciliation was clear and obvious in all agenda items. It was found in the 8 speeches by Politburo members and in the 309 other meetings held here and in (?other places). I am referring to those talks held and speeches given in the collectives of Kabul city. As a matter of fact, every second a delegate spoke. This is an example of the good democratic atmosphere in which the work of the conference ended.

The view that has been embodied in the new action program and charter has gained the status of party law. The nationwide party conference approved, in a satisfactory manner, the vital need for and correctness of the party policy.

The days of the nationwide party conference were transformed into days of a genuine school of national reconciliation by the extent of the questions raised, by the profound considerations and amendments, and by the relevant suggestions and views. Similarly, these days were transformed into ways for a new school of political thought and days of pioneer methods of work. I can say with full responsibility that this conference gave an answer to the key and important questions of the present and showed the party organizations the path of their action and activities under these changing circumstances. We have determined the path for the rapid and complete achievement of national peace and for the consolidation of the PDPA's status in the life of Afghan society.

The assessment of the issues raised was marked by a principled and sincere attitude. The delegates spoke genuinely and openly about shorthcomings in the work of the party and government. The constructive criticisms which were raised in this conference showed party members' interest in improving work in all circles of the PDPA and in the organs of the government apparatus, as well as in accelerating the process of national reconciliation.

The work of the conference continued in an atmosphere of unity and cohesion. The successful realization of the policy of national reconciliation is hidden in the unity of objectives and actions of the party and in its ideological, political, and organizational ranks. Only in this way can the party maintain and consolidate its pioneering role as a vanguard force in Afghan society. Only in this way can the party secure for the people a peaceful and prosperous life.

The delegates now face duties and responsibilities. They should pass on to every party member and to the level of the broad nonparty masses the spirit and nature of the decisions adopted. Not only were the explanations of decisions, regulations, and the principled stands adopted by the conference, but also the organization of their practical and immediate implementation in our life.

The decisions of the nationwide conference must become the focal point of all party organizations and committees. It is necessary for these decisions to be considered fully, under a single agenda, by the plenums of the party committees and in party sessions.

The curriculum of national reconciliation which we—the delegates at this conference—studied, must be studied by all members of the party.

We are confident that the nationwide conference on national reconciliation will take a worthy and proud place in the history of our party and revolution as a conference of peace, unity, and creativity.

Today we can clearly see the tasks the party must complete in order to accelerate the process of national reconciliation. The PDPA must indefatigably consolidate and broaden its contacts with all social strata in the interests of the people of Afghanistan, live with their aspirations, needs, and worries, and link their organizations with the broad masses of the toilers.

By intensifying its efforts to explain the nature of the policy of national reconciliation, the PDPA must conquer the minds and hearts of millions of our compatriots, pass on to every village and tent the word of truth, and pave the way for the idea of peace and accord in every home and in every Afghan family. The PDPA must be indefatigable in seeking and finding new allies in the struggle for national reconciliation and attract them to the general struggle, forge ahead with courage and decisiveness toward compromises, continuously develop and broaden the administration of coalitions, and quickly popularize these things at all levels of state sovereignty.

The PDPA must secure the satisfactory defense of the peaceful life of Afghanistan's inhabitants and take care of those compatriots who have heard the call for peace, laid down weapons, returned from alien territories, and joined the revolutionary sovereignty.

The PDPA must review decisively the forms and manners of political party work so that they will be able to achieve daily specific, practical results in implementing the policy of national reconciliation.

The PDPA must secure the fighting forces of its ranks, consolidate its unity, completely wipe out factionalist hostility as well as other factionalist tendencies, and become a genuinely united and powerful party which can reflect the will and aspirations of the people of Afghanistan.

We are capable of doing all these things, so we must carry them out. The all-party conference and its historic resolutions and decisions invite us to do this.

The PDPA thanks all those socialist and communist parties; revolutionary, democratic and liberation movements; and all those forces that have sent messages to this conference. We acclaim the support of fraternal parties for our national reconciliation policy, and assure them that we will not spare any efforts to ensure peace in our fatherland.

In 17 days, the fraternal USSR, and all progressive mankind, will celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, which is the great event of our time, the beginning of revolutionary change in this century. The delegation we send to the USSR to participate in the ceremonies will be entrusted by the conference to convey our cordial congratulations and sincere wishes for their further progress and prosperity. [applause]

Soviet brothers and other friends, accept our thanks for your selfless internationalist help to Afghanistan and for your comprehensive support for national reconciliation. The people of Afghanistan support the peaceful policy of the USSR, as expressed in the speeches and statements of M.S. Gorbachev. [applause]

Comrades, our people have followed the proceedings of the conference in great detail. Many messages were received by the conference, some of which have been printed as a booklet and distributed among you.

During the month of Mizan [23 September to 22 October], 5,578 new members were enlisted, whereas 17,213 were recruited in the first 6 months of the year. This is a good comparison, which shows the organizing strength of the party. Fraternal parties showed an inspiring interest in the proceedings of the conference. We received 47 telegrams which have been printed as a booklet and distributed among you.

Thousands of compatriots helped in the successful work of the conference. Pilots brought you to Kabul. Kabul Polytechnic received you kindly. The party and executive committees of Kabul city, as well as the ministries, arranged interesting programs. You visited various parts of the city. Hundreds of artists performed for you. Press workers and typists worked heroically, day and night, providing you with plenty of materials about the conference. On behalf of you, the delegates, we all express our party's gratitude to them. [applause]

It is necessary to advance with courage and to welcome the 10th anniversary of the national and democratic revolution with new successes!

Long live the PDPA, the fighting vanguard of the people of Afghanistan! [applause]

Long live our dear country, Afghanistan!

Long live peace! [applause]

Now allow me to say that with high discipline and unity the powerful, well-received, and historic conference of the PDPA has inflicted heavy, shattering blows both to internal and external enemies and to national and international rivals. [applause]

ROWPA Greets Participants

LD220902 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0442 GMT 22 Oct 87

[Text] Kabul, October 21, *Bakhtar*—The deliberations of the PDPA nation-wide conference will result in decisions useful for the people of our homeland and ensuring peace and security in our country.

It was stated in the congratulatory message addressed by the Central Committee of the Revolutionary Organisation of the Working People of Afghanistan (ROWPA) to the participants of the PDPA conference held here from October 18-20.

As a revolutionary contingent that during over two decades of its existance has gone through many ups and downs, suffered lots of hardships and sacrifices and thus accumulated more experience, particularly in the last decade, the Revolutionary Organisation of the Working People of Afghanistan has always been of the notion that the revolutionary movement of our country can triumph only when it relies on the potential of the popular masses as a decisive factor, and on solidarity with international revolutionary and progressive forces as a necessary condition.

The Revolutionary Organization of the Working People of Afghanistan, the message says, [words indistinct] cause of a nation-wide peace and the DRA's call upon opposition to a political dialogue, its policy of pluralism, its efforts for creating a democratic atmosphere and providing conditions for the return of our compatriots

still living abroad, and its [words indistinct] national and progressive forces, the Left alliance in particular, for cooperation in the struggle against reactionary and imperialist forces. The ROWPA considers the convocation of this conference positive and effective for the future of the country's revolutionary and progressive movement which ushered in the first step for practical creation of the left alliance in the country with reaching agreement on cooperation between the PDPA and the ROWPA.

"Our organisation is of the conviction that only through the formation of a nation-wide new-type party, national united front comprised of all national forces and elements that could really represent all the toiling and patriotic strata and classes, provided there is the unity of action of all revolutionary forces in its nucleus, the complicated, difficult and tense situation can be ended and the current destructive war in our homeland can also be ceased".

"We declare with pleasure today that in order to put an end to war and fratricide and decisive defending the interests of the toilers, the treaty of united struggle between the PDPA and the ROWPA has been signed (?is the) first step towards this end", the message points out.

Najibullah Addresses 20 Oct Kabul Rally
LD222326 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 21 Oct 87

[Text] Esteemed listeners of Radio Afghanistan: A glorious meeting was held yesterday afternoon in the National Stadium in Kabul to express support for the resolutions and decisions of the second nationwide PDPA conference as an important event in our country. This meeting was attended by the participants of the Second PDPA National Conference, thousands of members of Kabul city's party organisations, units and companies of the Armed Forces, and some members of the Kabul municipal social organisations.

Comrade Dr Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, delivered a wide-ranging speech at this meeting. We now draw your attention to this speech:

[Begin Najibullah recording] Dear brothers and sisters: From the bottom of my heart I congratulate you, the participants in this historic meeting, on the conclusion of the national party conference, which was devoted to national reconciliation. [applause]

This meeting is a clear example of our people's support for our party and its defensive policy to achieve peace and an end to the fratricidal, dictated war.

On behalf of the Central Committee and all members of the national PDPA conference, I express my heartfelt thanks to each of you, dear comrades, esteemed friends, and dear compatriots, for your memorable support for the decisions of our party. [applause]

Dear comrades, during these past few days the national conference was transformed into a school where there was intense collective thinking dominated by the spirit of responsibility, work, and reciprocal understanding.

The national party conference and its historic decisions are a great event in the life of the party and country. This is a formidable victory which has given us faith in the power of all party members and real patriots, as well as in the victory of national reconciliation.

The national party conference has approved the ways and means to accelerate national reconciliation. This goal responds to the desires of all Afghan working people. Implementing the conference decisions will enhance even further the peace-seeking role of our party and enable us to end the bloodshed and fratricide which have engulfed our country.

Dear friends and fighting comrades, today we have entered a new stage of the struggle to end the meaningless war and restore peace in the country. [applause] Today, we invite all party members and people to accelerate the process of national reconciliation to rapidly make this process irreversible.

What do we mean by acceleration? In our view, acceleration lies in mobilizing all peace-loving forces of Afghan society in the united and unshakable front of fighters against war, against the people's misery and pain, and against national bankruptcy. We invite all patriotic and progressive forces of society to unite in the struggle to reconstruct a progressive Afghan society.

In our opinion, acceleration means enthusiastically extending the hand of peace to all peasants and all inhabitants of those villages which are not yet under the control of the government.

In our view, acceleration lies in the relentless popularization of national reconciliation throughout all the territory of Afghanistan.

In our view, acceleration depends on the creation of forms of coalition government at all levels of government; that is to say, from village and city to the National Assembly and the Council of Ministers. In our opinion, acceleration means restructuring party and government work on the basis of principles of a multiparty and coalition system. In our view, acceleration depends on creating a satisfactory defensive shield that will secure peace and security for our millions of compatriots who have abandoned fighting and joined the national reconciliaition.

Acceleration means resolutely foiling the plots of fanatical extremists and capitalists on the other side of the ocean opposing the process of Afghan reconciliation. Our resistance to all enemies of national reconciliation will be increased and strengthened.

The most important documents in the national party conference—the new PDPA action program, the amendment to the party charter, the draft constitution, and other documents—will accelerate national reconciliation.

The national party conference resolution on unity will hold the most important position in party life and in the struggle for national reconciliation.

We have decisively and firmly stated that our party will only be able to play its historic role in the struggle for national reconciliation on the basis of unity and cohesion in its ranks. We unveiled the policy for genuine consolidation of party unity at the PDPA Central Committee's 17 October plenum, and we will resolutely and unswervingly follow this policy in the future.

Dear friends, look around and see how enormous our number is. Only one-sixth of our party, family, and fighting brotherhood is present. This enormous national force belongs to the persecuted people of our country. Will we not undertake any duty? Our party has confidently and optimistically answered this question: We can and we must be victorious and guide our misery-stricken people to peace. [applause]

Let those who value peace in their land raise their hands. The direct instruction of all the people and all party ranks to the Central Committee and the whole party is: to peace, peace, and again peace.

Who of us has not heard mothers and women cry over the martyrdom of their sons and husbands? Has any heart here not been hurt by the innocent looks of orphans? Who of us has not recited the funeral prayer for youths who were martyred at the beginning of their young lives?

It is so difficult for a human being to suffer the loss of a faithful friend who was martyred in the fires of war. I ask you to honor the memory of the martyrs by observing a minute of silence, and by firing a salute. [silent pause] Thank you.

This heroic struggle of our comrades will bring new victories to us. Our country is progressing slowly but firmly towards a peaceful life. Put out the fires of war with its increasing hatred.

The epic of news from Farah and Nimroz Provinces, which announced on the eve of the conference that they are provinces of peace, was delightful news to all genuine patriots. This is a good example for the whole country. Everywhere possibilities are being provided for peace, for the organization of coalition administrations, and for the creation of new zones of peace.

Dear brothers and sisters, the party has given us a formidable cause. History has made us responsible for the future of the people of Afghanistan, peace, and the prosperity of the homeland. Our hearts must be full of love and pain for the people. Decisiveness must bolster our determination and give each of us unlimited tolerance. We should not destroy, but build; not kill, but save lives; not harm, but heal. This is the highest instruction of our party and all patriots.

Let the peasants and herdsmen in the remotest parts of the country and the armed groups hidden in the mountains who live in poverty hear our voice: Revolutionary sovereignty has given everyone the right to self-determination, work, and to be self-governing; and it promises everyone a prosperous and peaceful life. However, revolutionary sovereignty resolutely deprives everyone of the right to take up weapons to solve socioeconomic and political differences.

In addressing the oppositionists and the deceived brothers, we ask them to remember the wise words of Sa'di [famous poet]: Uncaring for the pain of others, you should not be called a human being.

If you value the land of your ancestors, if you value the nation's freedom and independence, then hold cease-fire talks as soon as possible with the extraordinary commissions and representatives of the state. Reach an accord about the form of your participation in the political life of society. Let peace and prosperity shine like the sun on every home and family as soon as possible. [applause]

Dear friends, we are on the threshold of a great festival for all revolutionaries and all the peace-loving and democratic forces of our planet; that is, the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. We sincerely and warmly congratulate the Soviet people for their comprehensive, internationalist, and disinterested assistance, and we wish them new victories in the work and in the struggle for the cause of world peace. [applause]

Dear comrades, today we declare that the banner of reconciliation which is being raised higher by the national party conference will take us to new victories. Long live the cause of peace! [shouts of "peace"] We swear on our honor and our lives to our people that we will always value their trust and support. This will give all-round inspiration to every one of us in the struggle for the construction of our ancestral homeland.

Today we declare: The party which has announced the policy of national reconciliation has sufficient energy and faith to solve these problems.

Long live the PDPA!

Today we announce that independent Afghanistan, sovereign and nonaligned, will not leave the bright path of social progress.

I wish peace and prosperity for every home, every family and each citizen. Long live our beloved homeland, Afghanistan!

The Central Committee, Revolutionary Council and the Council of Ministers have conferred the title of "Hero of the DRA" on the best workers, Armed Forces personnel, and intelligentsia. Allow me to present these high medals of our homeland to the pioneer comrades. [end recording]

Surface-to-Surface Missiles Captured in Lograr
LD241748 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1655 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] Armed extremists who wanted to stir up fighting and bloodshed in the areas around Logar Province and to distrupt the peaceful life of people in that area were crushed recently by the country's Armed Forces.

According to a report by a *Bakhtar* correspondent, the peace-loving people and the national reconciliation commission in that province asked the national Armed Forces to prevent this sinister action by the opposition extremists. As a result, a number of these criminals were crushed in Kolangar and Muhammad Aqa District of Logar Province. They captured 36 extremists along with their arms and ammunition including, 298 surface-to-surface missiles [as heard], 3 mortars, 2 recoilless rifles, 11 rocket launchers, 74 assorted weapons, 228 rockets, 434 mortar shells, 96 antipersonnel and antivehicle mines, and thousands of rounds of ammunition for various types of weapons.

Mujahidin Leaders To Seek UN Hearing, Address
BK250436 Hong Kong AFP in English 0239 GMT
25 Oct 87

[By Sami Zubeiri]

[Text] Islamabad, Oct 25 (AFP)—Afghan resistance leaders plan to take their case to the United Nations later this month where they will seek a hearing in the General Assembly, a rebel leader said here.

Their delegation will be led by Mawlawi Muhammad Yunis Khalis, newly elected president of the seven-party mujahidin Resistance Alliance, who will make an attempt to speak in the General Assembly where Afghanistan is currently represented by the pro-Soviet regime in Kabul, Sebghatullah Mujadedi said.

"We will try to address the U.N. General Assembly and if we are not allowed we will meet delegates individually" before the Afghan resolution is voted, he told *Agence France-Presse*.

A Non-Aligned Movement resolution demanding immediate Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan is likely to be voted on November 9.

"The Soviet troop presence continues to be the main problem for the Afghan people who have suffered a lot in the past years," Mr. Mujadedi said.

Mr. Mujadedi rejected Afghanistan President Najibullah's latest offer to the Resistance Alliance to join a coalition government.

"We cannot and will not accept Najibullah or any communist in the future Afghan Government," Mr. Mujadedi said, adding that Mr. Najibullah had offered him the Education Ministry in a future government. "I rejected (it) flatly."

Mr. Najibullah and his Soviet backers were bogged down in Afghanistan, and as they failed to tame the resistance the problem was becoming "more and more complex for them with the passage of time," he added.

"We had no air defence two years ago. But now we have Stingers and Blowpipes," he said, which had "eliminated the Soviet superiority in Afghanistan."

Mr. Mujadedi believed the Soviet Union wanted to get out of Afghanistan, but was waiting for a face-saving solution.

"Moscow also fears slaughter of the communists after they pull back and what they need is a guarantee for the protection of a few hundred communist Afghans," he said.

But he said a strong and popular government could control the situation in post-Soviet Afghanistan, adding he favoured ex-King Zahir Shah as its leader.

"The former king did no good to me," he said adding that the exiled king sent him to jail for four years in 1959, confiscated his father's property and destroyed his farms. "But I will accept him in the interest of my nation."

M. Mujadedi said radical resistance leaders like Gulbuddin Hikmatyar, who oppose Zahir Shah knew that "the hollowness of their claims of controlling 70 or 80 per cent of the country would be exposed."

He did not oppose the idea, informally floated by Pakistan Prime Minister Muhammed Khan Junejo and also backed by the U.S. industrialist Armand Hammer, to station an international peacekeeping force in Afghanistan.

But he said such a force would be needed only if the Afghan people failed to get a strong leadership, adding that he believed more than 90 per cent of the people would accept ex-King Zahir Shah as leader.

However, he rejected Mr. Hammer's recent proposal to appoint the king's son-in-law, General Abdul Wali as prime minister under Mr. Najibullah.

Besides Mr. Mujadedi, who heads the Afghan National Liberation Front said the delegation to New York will include Sayyed Ahmad Gaylani, chief of the National Islamic Front of Afghanistan and several other guerrilla leaders.

Eight Revolutionary Groups Form New Coalition

LD241707 Tehran IRNA in English 1619 GMT 24 Oct 87

[tExt] Tehran, Oct. 24, IRNA—Eight revolutionary Afghan groups announced the formation of a new coalition today.

The new coalition, comprising the Islamic Revolution United Front, Jihad (holy war) Guards, Hezbollah group, the Islamic Movement, Harakati-Islami Da'wat Party, Nasr Organization and Organization of Muslim Forces, in a statement released Saturday vowed to step-up struggle against the joint Soviet-Afghan troops.

The statement said that the coalition aims at uniting all genuine Muslim strugglers in Afghanistan. It also called on the Afghan people to mobilize all their economic resources and manpower for the fight against Soviet troops.

The Islamic Revolution United Front for Afghanistan was formed earlier through the coalition of five groups.

Mujahidin Attack Khwabgah Security Post 14 Oct

BK230634 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say the mujahidin attacked the (Karamatkoh) security post in Khwabgah area south of Zaranj on 14 October, killing four Soviet-Kabul soldiers. They also captured eight Kalashnikov rifles and some other arms and destroyed the security post. One mujahidin was martyred in this operation. In the Kabul area, mujahidin destroyed Soviet military camp installations and two security posts at (Khuruti).

Bangladesh

'Stern Action' Promised Against Strikers

BK241634 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] The government has stated categorically that stern action will be taken against all those involved in disturbing normalcy in public life. A press note issued by the Home Ministry in Dhaka this evening said it has been observed with concern that certain political parties had been holding out threat of organizing gheraos [blockades] and siege in Dhaka and elsewhere in the country. The news of such threats are being given wide publicity in the press.

The press note says that threats of gheraos and siege are such activities that come within the purview of prejudicial act. The so-called acts of gheraos and siege are likely to seriously jeopardize public peace and tranquillity and disturb normalcy in public life. These could also adversely affect the post-flood reconstruction and rehabilitation efforts of the government. All those involved in organizing and participating in such gheraos and siege and those who are giving publicity to such unlawful acts render themselves liable to legal action.

The government hopes all concerned would desist from such prejudicial and unlawful acts.

300 Opposition Leaders Arrested

BK260926 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Text] In Bangladesh, more than 300 opposition leaders have been arrested to frustrate their Dhaka siege program planned for the 10th of next month. The eight-party and seven-party alliances are determined to go ahead with the movement despite the government terming it as illegal. The leaders of both the opposition alliances—Sheikh Hasina and Begum Khaleda Zia—said in Dhaka that the Dhaka siege would be peaceful. They said the siege would continue till the present government resigns and hands over power to a neutral government.

India

Gunfire Exchanged With Pakistan on Kashmir Border

BK251504 Hong Kong AFP in English 1457 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] New Delhi, Oct 25 (AFP)—Indian and Pakistani troops exchanged fire on the disputed Kashmir border late Saturday, the *Press Trust of India* (PTI) reported Sunday.

The gunfire came after Indian troops objected to Pakistanis digging trenches on the Poonch sector of the border, the news agency said, quoting official information reaching Jammu, the winter capital of India's Jammu and Kashmir State.

Pakistani troops were accused of opening "unprovoked" firing at civil population in three Indian border villages, identified as Bagyaldara, Sokar and Degwar, some 4 kilometres to the north of Poonch town, PTI said.

There was no casualties on either side, it said.

India and Pakistan have fought wars on Kashmir in 1947 and 1965.

Commander in Sri Lanka Reportedly Replaced

BK240440 Hong Kong AFP in English 0425 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Excerpt] New Delhi, Oct 24 (AFP)—India has replaced the commander of peacekeeping troops who are battling Tamil rebels for control of Sri Lanka's northern Jaffna town, a newspaper reported here Saturday.

Major-General Harkirat Singh has been replaced by Major-General A.S. Kalkat, *The Statesman* said quoting unnamed informed sources. Brigadier K.S. Kahlon has been posted as second-in-command to Maj.-Gen. Kalkat, it added.

Official spokesmen were not immediately available for comment on the report Saturday, a government holiday.

The Statesman said the command-level shakeup was apparently in reaction to the high number of Indian casualties suffered in the offensive against the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), which began on October 8.

About 129 Indian troops had died and 27 were missing by the official count till Thursday, but *The Statesman* said that more than 200 had died, including seven officers. [passage omitted]

Tamil Nadu Trains Canceled Due to 'Agitation'

BK240940 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] All train services in Tamil Nadu remained canceled today in view of the rail roko [blockade] agitation called by the DMK [to protest against Indian Armed Forces action in Sri Lanka]. Suburban train services in Madras also remained suspended since last night. Madras Central and Egmore railway stations wore a deserted look. No untoward incident has been reported from any part of the state so far. Police have made elaborate security arrangements. About 2,000 suspected antisocial elements have been taken into custody. The Grand Trunk Express and the Tamil Nadu Express have been stopped at Gudur and all the passengers were provided bus service facility to reach Madras. Bombay Mail and Dadar Express are being stopped at Renigunta and link bus services arranged for the day.

Defense Minister Says Doors Open to LTTE

BK241300 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] The defense minister, Mr K.C. Pant, has said that doors are still open for political dialogue if the LTTE decides to surrender arms and work constructively toward the process of normalization in Jaffna. He was addressing the Congress-I workers at his residence today. He said India has no ill will or anger against any group if it gives up arms. Mr Pant said New Delhi wants Sri Lanka to remain united while fulfilling the hopes and aspirations of the Tamils there.

The minister said the peacekeeping force in Sri Lanka suffered so many casualties only because of its attempts to save innocent lives.

3 Killed, 2 Injured by 'Terrorists' in Punjab

BK250948 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] In Punjab, three persons were killed and two injured in separate incidents of terrorist activities last night. In Jullundur District, a sarpanch [headman] of Jahandar village under Nakodar police station, Mr Tan Singh, and his son-in-law, Jarnail Singh, were killed when the terrorists fired at them after intruding into their house. The terrorists left behind one gun used by them in the crime, as they escaped. In Amritsar, the terrorists opened fire in a house in Khalsanagarbasti and killed its owner, Kulwant Singh, and injured two of his relations.

Six terrorists were arrested by the police in different places in Faridkot District yesterday. Two revolvers, three pistols, and one double-barreled gun with ammunition were recovered from their possession.

Curfew Imposed in Tripuran Town After Clashes

BK241326 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] In Tripura, indefinite curfew has been clamped in Belonia town from this afternoon following clashes between two groups of people. Official sources say about 40 people were injured. Some explosives were thrown at the police, injuring some police personnel. Because of the widespread violence in the state, the Tripura regional office of the United Bank of India has postponed the distribution of loan forms.

'Extremists' Kill Six in Tripura 24 Oct

BK250818 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] In Tripura, six persons, including a 2-year-old girl, were killed by TNV [Tripura National Volunteers] extremists at Brahmachara village in (Telliaguda) subdivision of west Tripura District last night. Quoting official sources, the All India Radio Agartala correspondent reports that the dead belong to two families. Our correspondent further adds that earlier, in three separate incidents during this month, 23 persons have been killed in North and South Districts.

Police Kill 3 in Madhya Pradesh Protest
BK250924 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] In Madhya Pradesh, 3 persons were killed and 10 others injured when police opened fire yesterday to disperse an unruly crowd at (Pangatarai) village in Bilaspur District. The mob was protesting against the stand taken by some Congress-I leaders allowing entry to scheduled caste people into a temple. The trouble started when a Congress-I MP, Mr Keyur Bhushan, visited the village yesterday. An angry mob gheraoed [encircled] him and indulged in stone throwing. They also set a jeep on fire. The police were forced to open fire when the lathi [baton] charge and tear gas failed to control the mob. Ten people have been arrested and an indefinite curfew has been clamped in the village. The chief minister, Mr Motilal Vora, has expressed shock over the incident and ordered a judicial inquiry into it. The home minister and senior police officials have rushed to the spot.

2 Nagaland 'Insurgents' Killed by Police
BK260358 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Text] In Nagaland, two insurgents were killed and one arrested in an encounter with the police at a village near Dimapur on Saturday [24 October] night. The encounter took place during combing operations following a bank robbery. In an exchange of fire between the police and the rebels, one insurgent was killed on the spot, while another succumbed to injuries in the hospital. The house owner and a third member of the gang were arrested. The additional deputy commissioner of police, Dimapur, told our Kohima correspondent that the culprits belong to the National Socialist Council of Nagaland.

Chinese Transmitters Interfere With Broadcasts
BK231311 Delhi PATRIOT in English 14 Oct 87 p 1

[By Vineet Dikshit]

[Text] China's high-powered transmitters have been found to interfere with and even block sensitive Indian transmissions and All India Radio programmes.

For the past many years Air Kohima and Air Kurseong have suffered acute interference from Radio Beijing. However, recently a major instance of sensitive jamming has surfaced whereby signals from the Indian time and frequency station have been blocked by the Chinese time station.

With its call-sign ATA-New Delhi—the station, situated in the capital, transmits accurate pulses of Indian standard time (IST) 24 hours of the day. It is an 8 kw low power transmitter. For quite some time it is consistently being jammed by a 25 kw Chinese time station with a call sign BPM. This station is located at a place known as Lintong in Xian province of China (34 degrees 21 minutes N, 109 degrees 11 minutes E).

The Indian time signal station is vital in national interests as its services are put to use almost every day by country's defence in calibrating accurate Indian standard time for logistical purposes. Apart from the Armed Forces, a score of research institutes engaged in atmospheric studies, All India Radio, all the navigational agencies, including the air traffic control and central wireless monitoring organisations, are beneficiaries of this service.

The ATA's time is disseminated via short wave electromagnetic medium. Three frequencies used are 5,000, 10,000 and 15,000 kHz. All of them are jammed by BPM China. The worst sufferer among them is the channel on 10,000 kHz, which is shared by both ATA and BPM.

Counter-steps: The National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi, is the custodian of the Indian standard time and its scientists are manning the ATA. The site of this station is opposite Savitri theatre in Greater Kailash II in South Delhi on a small farm land.

In order to overcome jamming of ATA, the Indian Government has sanctioned funds for installation of 30 kw marconi transmitters. The higher power ATA is expected to be in operation in six months from now.

Interference in IST radio station is not an isolated case of jamming by Chinese transmitters. Last week Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, during his visit, was given a petition by affected citizens of Nagaland that some of the broadcasts from Kohima and Kurseong stations of All Indian Radio were consistently being overrun by a powerful battery of Chinese radio stations.

Iran

Hashemi-Rafsanjani's Friday Prayers Sermon
LD231639 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1700 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Second Friday prayers sermon delivered by Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani at Tehran University on 23 October]

[Text] Before commencing the debate in the second sermon, we praise the memory of the struggling martyr, Ayatollah Hajj Seyyed Mostafa, the dear one, the valiant and elder son of the imam. We know that his eminence the imam has indicated his desire that the anniversary of his son's martyrdom should not be held on too grand a scale. Our revolution abounds in martyrs and the imam does not want his son to have some kind of distinction in terms of publicity, although however much we speak about him it will not be enough. He was one of the great qualified clerics and one of the pioneer crusaders.

You remember that his martyrdom marked a great step on the path of the revolution. After his martyrdom, the people initiated a movement, a movement that pushed Iran forward. Since then the people have not remained silent, and they will never remain silent.

We offer our condolences and greetings on this occasion to the great imam and the great brother of the martyr, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hajj Ahmad Aqa, as well as to his honorable household, the household of the imam. God willing, his spirit, along with the spirits of our other martyrs and the spirits of the prophets will carry his special blessings.

As to the day's problems and the situation in the region, we have considered many topics thath I will now discuss comprehensively. If the rain allows, we will expand the debate and if not, we will have the debate at some other place. Of course, the blessing of rain on our Islamic homeland is much more important than our remarks.

You can see the conditions prevailing in the region: Western arrogance, under the leadership of the United States, has now confronted the Islamic Revolution on a massive scale. We now face the root of corruption—the great Satan and the mother of corruption. We also have had several small incidents of encounters, of which you are aware.

The objectives now pursued by the United States are different from the objectives it had in imposing the war, instigating the counterrevolution, and other matters. Now it has two very important objectives. One of them is to weaken the Islamic Revolution and thus save Saddam from the danger of collapse. its second objective is to solve the problem of Israel. It believes that its actions can isolate the Arabs—especially the prosperous, the wealthy, and the oppressors among them—from the Arab world and place them side by side with Israel. Thus, it believes it can solve the problem of Israel and the greater problem which is now facing global arrogance—the Islamic Revolution.

It also has secondary objectives along with these two main objectives, to which we will refer in the course of our debate. As to our objective, this was clear from the very beginning. Since the day we began the struggle up until now—as we fight the United States face to face—we have had only one objective: to discharge our duties to Islam, under the sovereignty of the Koran and the divine tenets. That is our principal objective.

Defeat has no meaning for us in this crusade. Indeed, anybody who is familiar with the principles of faith knows that he cannot imagine the possibility of defeat as God's crusader, because our nation, our people, and all crusaders on the divine path enter the arena as a matter of duty. Their mission is to struggle. The result of the struggle does not concern us; the result only concerns God.

God used to tell the Prophet: You do not guide the one you like. When the Prophet felt sad because the people did not listen to him, the Koran used to tell him why he was feeling sorry. It told him that it was sufficient that he perform his duty. If God wanted everybody to become Muslims, He could do so; that is not difficult for God. Issues such as the power of divinity, the creation of man, the sending of prophets, and the like, are tests of mankind. They offer choices to mankind. To progress on the path of happiness is a choice available to people. We must simply show them the path. We must strive to remove the obstacles that block the way to people.

Anybody who strives will achieve results. We enter the arena under this assumption. Defeat is meaningless to any person who joins this endeavor—whether financially, by giving his life, or through his speech—because he receives his reward in performing his duty.

Thus, such a nation is confronting the United States. The United States does not realize who is confronting it. At the same time, we do not doubt in the slightest the righteousness of our cause, and we know our righteous path. We also know our principles and our wishes, and our enemy. We are now confronting such people on earth. We are victims of aggression by the most ruthless, bullying, and tyrannical of human beings, the most unhealthy of people. Our children are being martyred by such people—be they Iraqi or American. Therefore, our path is clear. We are entering the arena with such a mentality. He who fights with such a mentality will not feel tired; as the days pass, he becomes stronger.

Now we will review the situation to see if the United States has made any gains. We are not speaking about Iraq now. We are speaking about the United States As for Iraq, the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee recently prepared a 60-page report on Iraq's situation. The report very clearly shows signs of defeat and the imminent downfall of Saddam and the Ba'thists. God willing, our mass media will publish this report for your perusal. However, we want to review the situation concerning the United States. For some time now the United States has been officially involved in the confrontation. We would like to see what the United States has gained now and what we have gained. From now on it is only God, the Almighty, who knows best what will happen. We can now review the situation up through today. First, let us see how closely the United States has achieved its objectives. One of the U.S. objectives was to preserve the Ba'thist 'Aflaqi regime. The same report I mentioned earlier, issued by the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, shows how far the United States has been successful. It strongly indicates that the United States [as heard] is exploding from the inside from the north, south, and center... [changes thought] Iraq is exploding and is beyond saving. The report recommends that the United States should not rely on a degenerating invalid.

Regarding the United States' other objective—to crush the Islamic Revolution: You are seeing domestically that the more the United States exposes its nature, the more our people become involved in the revolutionary process. Moreover, the world is paying more attention to the Islamic Revolution because it sees how the Islamic Revolution is fighting against such a satanic and evil power. If the American goal was to come here to rescue the countries of the southern Persian Gulf, the shaykhdoms of the region, it has instead placed them directly into difficulties. They had no problems before the United States came. However, from the day the United States came to the Persian Gulf, they have had very serious problems. About the incident in Kuwait yesterday: If the United States had not come, then this incident certainly would not have happened. This shows that instead of protecting them, the United States has created many problems for them. If the United States came to establish security in the Gulf—which is what it claims—well, we are seeing the form this security has taken: Insurance rates have increased several fold; insurance for vessels has multiplied. This is indicative of the kind of security the United States has established here.

Now what about the United States itself? What losses has it incurred, and what has it gained? We have reviewed American losses. Were it not raining I would have elaborated on the details and explained them to you. However, for the time being I will just list them. First of all, the obvious material loss that the United States has experienced up to now is its loss of three helicopters with a number of crew members; two ships that were blown up [as heard] by powerful missiles and are not easily repairable; the loss of a minesweeping vessel that was cut in two in mid-journey during an incident; the loss of more than 40 persons killed so far; and the extraordinary financial losses while pursuing this course.

American credibility has been undermined in various respects. The United States has opposed the Security Council resolution which it initiated itself. It violated Clause 5 of the resolution because that clause says that United States should not come to the region. That was the second; now the third: The United States has aroused the wrath of the Muslims and dedicated people around the world. Until 1 or 2 months ago, people were not so explicitly confronting the United States, but now they are bitterly opposed to the United States, as all of us here today are.

Fourth, the economic turmoil prevailing today in the world, rooted in New York: During this past week, what happened to the stock markets and stock prices was unprecedented in history. Even 1929, which is historically called the year of economic crisis, was not like this and did not cause this much turmoil, inflicting millions of dollars in losses to shareholders, for whom money is god. This crisis has jeopardized the roots of the wealthy and capitalists in the West to a point where the world will experience its effects in the future. This crises was caused by the U.S. presence in the region and the environmental pollution of the Persian Gulf. The American lackeys, with Kuwait and Saudi Arabia heading the list, have become disgraced. The United States thought it necessary for them to have some honor, so they would not be known as such servants and lackeys. This is a major danger for the future. That was number five.

Sixth, the United States is not safe anywhere in the world. You are aware that they have alerted all their embassies, missions, and all American institutions throughout the world. They have instructed people not to leave their residences, or if they do go out, to be accompanied by guards or go incognito, unless they are in places where they think there are no revolutionaries—and of course, no such place exists in the world. [chants]

Seventh, criticism of American policy has come from quarters they never imagined. Some comments by Turkish newspapers were read to you over the radio and television last night. Turkish papers have sharply attacked the United States' military presence in the Persian Gulf. Unexpectedly, Pakistani papers have sharply attacked it. Former President Carter has said a stupid policy is being pursued by the White House in that the United States has become a hostage to Iraq's policy and that our forces are now hostages to our flags flying over Kuwaiti ships. Mr Haig has said the United States has never been as impotent around the world as it is today.

Eighth, there is storm in Sino-U.S. relations. The United States invested a great deal in establishing relations with China. Now, because they believe the missiles come from China, they are in conflict with China and have banned the export of high technology to China, with its 1 billion population. The United States has invested enormously in ways of creating a split between China and the Soviet Union, two major countries. Now, it has come into conflict with the Chinese. This is no small matter. It humiliates the Chinese nation. There are a billion people there. The United States says that because you have allegedly supplied arms to Iran, we refuse to give you certain items—items they had contracted to supply. The Chinese are saying: It seems that the United States thinks we are like Kuwait, to be threatened in this way.

The revelation regarding American financial difficulties is something that had been unknown until now. The United States did have a budget deficit, but they were really in a dire state. The military expedition to the Persian Gulf is extremely costly. They now have more than 30 warships here, with more than 25,000 troops aboard. They must be supplied; they must put up with conditions at sea. We do not know the cost of all this because it is secret. All this led to their budget not being passed in the U.S. Congress, exacerbating American budget difficulties and the budget deficit. The current stock market problems stem partly from the American economic situation. This became obvious to everyone. The United States was on its knees in this matter. It went

cap in hand to the Japanese, begging them to foot the bill for their military expedition. It even went to South Korea, a country that is itself beset by so much trouble—the United States went there asking financial help. Saudi Arabia is helping; Kuwait is helping. The American financial situation has never been in such a humiliating state as it is now, praise be to God.

Tenth [number as heard] is the crushing of the United States' imposing presence. The United States was a paper tiger, but nobody realized it. Now it has become clear. It has come to the Persian Gulf facing a nation that has just emerged from the burden of the revolution's problems, that has been fighting a war for 8 years, and that is fighting alone in the world. The humiliation that the United States is enduring at the hands of our revolutionary forces in the Persian Gulf is unprecedented in American history. This is their plight now. [shouts of "God is great"] The clear-sighted experts' interpretation around the world is that the United States is to be pitied now. It has been humilitated to such an extent and its credibility has been damaged so much that it should now be pitied.

Eleventh is the United States' confused policy. This sentence is on the lips of most political observers both in the United States and elsewhere; namely, that the United States has a confused policy, that it is not clear whose side it is on. Is it on Iraq's side; is it on Iran's side; is it on Saudi Arabia's side; is it on the Soviets' side; is it on China's side? One day it sells arms, the next day it refuses to do so. It supplies one country with arms and refuses arms to another. This is what is happening to Saudi Arabia. So, the aimless U.S. policy is being ridiculed around the world in various ways.

Twelfth is the discovery of the dependent character of Western powers. Countries such as Britain, France, Italy, Germany, Holland, and Belgium used to have some prestige. Before the United States ever came here, they all said they opposed such a step. When the United States did come, it pressured them one after another. Some of them have come with minesweepers, on the face of it; some with warships. These warships are roaming around aimlessly in the Gulf of Oman. They have nothing to do; their troops are in a state of mutiny asking why they are here. They say: Are we here to watch the rain fall in the Indian Ocean? Are we here on a fishing trip? These unfortunate people have nowhere to go for leave. This is one of the United States' newest problems. In the past if they turned up in some country, they would be respected. They could come. At least they could spend dollars, bringing in foreign currency. Now, however, wherever they want to go they are being told: You are suffering from AIDS; you should first be quarantined. This is no joking matter; it is a serious problem for the United States now because they cannot leave their ships. For one thing, they are not safe in an Islamic country. Something very funny was discovered yesterday: American ships due for leave go to Israel and the troops spend their leave secretly in Israel. Yesterday, an aircraft carrier and two other warships dropped anchor in Israeli waters. Everyone who asked them where they had come from was told it was a secret; why they went there was a secret. The reason for all this is that they cannot enter any Islamic country. Even the miserable Egypt is not letting them in. So they have no choice but to spend their leave in Israel.

Thirteen: The emergence of a lack of purpose and of contradictions in American policy. This is the same as confusion in the United States. To cite a few examples: U.S. policy includes establishing closer ties with Iran—everyone at the time admitted this was in the United States' interests. Then they did just the opposite; they are in conflict with Iran and are now close to Iraq. Well, the people are wondering. They say American policy is based on no principles. One can understand tactical moves; one can engage in certain limited moves within one's stated policy. But to be so unprincipled! One day sending McFarlane to Iran to beg, and the next day going begging to Iraq. This is not at all acceptable, selling arms to Iran one day, and the next day to Iraq—and all within 1 year.

The next contradiction is that the United States claims it opposes torturing people in detention. In the name of human rights, they are constantly deceiving the people. They took our troops, our Guards, the *Iran-Ajr*, and our boats. You can see what happened. The world has seen what the United States did to those injured persons. The torture inflicted on our men by the Americans on their warships and at their bases have never occurred in any torture chamber in the world, not even in South Africa. So the United States proved it is lying. They threw a man with six bullets in his body on the deck of the ship, kicking him all the time to make him talk. A soldier who had refused to talk was shot in the arm in the lavatory to force him to talk. They turned soap powder into liquid and poured a bucket of it into the mouth of one of our Guards to make him talk. How they tortured those nobel beings taken from the *Iran-Ajr*.

This is a terrible shame for a country that considers itself the standard bearer of human rights—to torture a person like this, a wounded person at that. If they were POW's, the United States should have observed the conventions. If they were hostages, then they are hostage-takers. If they were captives, well, this is how they treated them. None of these things apply. They were free people kidnapped in international waters, and these crimes were committed against them. How can this contradiction in American policy be acceptable?

Three [as heard]: The United States claims it is opposed to terrorism and hostage-taking. Yet, it took hostages. It engaged in terrorism at sea, in international waters. It engaged in piracy. However, it did not dare, it did not have any place to hold them as hostages. It had to turn them over to us. The fact that they were turned over to us should not be regarded as a simple matter. What could it do with them? The United States knew what could happen afterwards.

Four, the Security Council resolution: The United States signed the resolution and then itself violated it.

Five, the United States claims to favor peace and tranquillity, but has created tension in the region and in the world, plunging the world into an economic crisis. It has created a situation in the region whereby ships must now pay a five-fold insurance premium. This is because of tension. When it is said that the United States has a confused policy, this is what is meant. This is what is meant by the United States' loss of credibility. This is what is meant when it is said it is being ridiculed. We will discuss later the human and material losses it will suffer.

Now, as for our side, what did we do? Let us see what losses we have so far sustained because of the American presence here. We have, of course, sustained some losses: We have had 12 martyrs as a result of American aggression; we lost a vessel, an old cargo vessel, and 3 boats; and they have also destroyed 2 oil platforms, for which, in the view of world legal experts, we can claim damages. In any court that we may choose to file suit, it will condemn the United States. Moreover, one day we will collect all these plus interest. [shouts of approval]

Now please, ladies and gentlemen, refrain from shouting slogans so we can complete our remarks. We are afraid the rain may resume. Of course, I am summarizing my points.

As for our gains, first of all, the nature of this imposed war has been revealed. For years we have said that the United States is a warmonger and that we are fighting the United States, England, and France. However, those countries have always said that they were neutral. Now they can no longer say that they are neutral—they themselves admit it. These remarks have been made everywhere; they are said officially in the U.S. Congress and Senate, in other places, and in newspapers. The United States can no longer claim to be neutral; therefore, the United States' membership on the Security Council is also a sham.

Second, the anti-imperialistic nature of the Islamic Republic and the Islamic Revolution was clarified. They wanted to cast doubts on that. Particularly regarding the problems arising from the McFarlane case, they resorted to a lot of mischief by saying that the Iranians were not genuinely anti-imperialistic. However, this has now been proved. With this invasion mounted against us by the the United States, the point will not be forgotten for a hundred years. It is now clear to the whole world that today Iran is the most anti-imperialistic center in the world. Therefore, anti-imperialistic forces today regard Iran as their own base.

Third, revolutionary spirit has been heightened. As long as we were arrayed against Iraq and others like it, our nation did not feel the need to sacrifice too much. However, since the Americans came, the people have been applying great pressure—pressure for us to expand the war, to intensify it, to step up our moves, to mobilize forces, and to utilize all the capabilities for war. The feeling in our nation today is similar to the feeling after the conquest of Khorramshahr. Therefore, we have had great results in strengthening our support in the war.

Fourth, we now know who are our friends and our enemies. We have gained good experience in this affair. We have learned to distinguish our friends from our enemies. We will reveal these later on.

Fifth, it has awakened the nations of the region. Kuwait and Saudi Arabia never knew their governments were so spineless. By inviting the United States in and placing such capabilities at its disposal, by showing themselves to be weak and spineless, by chosing the wrong path, these governments' positions are now known. It is now clear to all the nations of the region that there are three places in the region—Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Israel—which the United States regards as one of its states, and is ready to dispatch forces to preserve them. In the past we relied on their support to fight Israel. The Islamic nations wanted to liberate Palestine through the power of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. Such deception was very dangerous. They were very dangerous in conferences against Israel; they were hidden spies for Israel, and as such they were very dangerous. Can Saudi Arabia now claim that it is anti-Israeli? Can Kuwait now claim to be anti-Israeli? How can they claim this, with the situation which the U.S. has brought about for them? The United States has disgraced them. The United States has thoroughly compromised them. This is one of our long-term gains.

The sixth gain is the building up of anti-imperialistic sentiment in the heart of our nation. This is the best capital for our independence. We might eventually have thought that it would be better to have the Americans here, that they could come and solve our problems.

The seventh gain is the closing of the anti-imperialist ranks. Today, effective steps have been taken to consolidate the ranks of those forces which are genuinely opposed to the United States and the domination of the Western arrogance. If these forces cooperate, they can be very effective in liberating the Third World.

Eighth, it has renewed and strengthened our reliance on God. We might have distanced ourselves from God because of the victories we had achieved against Iraq—victories which were reducing our difficulties. Now our nation has once again recovered its revolutionary spirituality because of what the United States had done. As a responsible person who is aware of the progress of the war, it is clear to me that these blows the United States is suffering in the Persian Gulf come from the hand of God. These are so well guided like invisible arrows that one begins to wonder. If you were to accompany the missiles in person to hit precisely where these invisible shots hit, you could not hit any better place than those targets. There were many ships in Kuwait; but two U.S.

ships—the ones who should have been hit—were hit. The missile which yesterday hit Al-Ahmadi hit precisely where it should, had there been an expert there to choose a place to plant a bomb. [shouts of approval]

Ninth, the logical policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran was made clear. We had many logical things to say, and now there are many people, even in the United States and England, who regard our logic as correct. We kept telling them: You have many other options, do not come to the Persian Gulf. First, you who have power over Iraq, you control everything regarding Iraq, Therefore, tell Iraq not to hit us and we will not retaliate, and the Persian Gulf would be made secure. They did not accept this logic. We told them: If you are not prepared to do this, and say that you cannot tie Iraq's hands even while our hands are open, tell Kuwait and Saudi Arabia to declare their neutrality. Let them announce that they are neutral. Appoint an observer to insure that they remain neutral, that they do not give Iraq any money, transit rights, weapons, and propaganda. Then, even if Iraq attacked all our ships, we would not bother them and the region would again be secure.

Well, this is a very logical stance. Kuwait cannot shout and clamor to the world, saying that it is neutral and asking why we hit it. It is lying when it says it is neutral. First of all, we have not admitted that we have hit anyone. We regard these as divine shots. You still cannot prove from where these missiles are coming. Iraq has missiles and we do, too. It is possible that the Iraqis are firing them in order to create mischief. Who knows? However, suppose that we fired them: How can you claim that you are neutral?

This is what some people say; they say: America attacked your oil platform. Why should your divine shots hit Al-Ahmadi? If the cow has done something, why do you cut off the calf's ears? In fact, there is a very clear answer to this. The answer is: United States' interests. The United States does not possess oil platforms in the Persian Gulf under the American flag. If you search throughout the world, you cannot find another oil platform which is of greater interest to the United States than the Al-Ahmadi oil platform. If we wanted to choose any spot in the entire world, even on U.S. shores, and if we wanted to find one platform where a blow could be struck against American interests, it would have been the Al-Ahmadi oil platform. God, who knows everything, chose that spot.

Therefore, their assertion of neutrality is a lie. I say right here and now: What is past is past. What the Americans are telling us, we tell the Kuwaitis. The Americans come and hit out ships and then say the issue is closed. Then we tell the Kuwaitis: The issue is now closed. If you have learned your lesson come and announce that you are neutral, say it truthfully, do not lie. See if there are any more problems! Right here and now we invite you to come to Iran. We will be together. We are fighting against Iraq; we are not fighting you. You should be neutral. Of course, you did something very wrong when you brought the Americans to the region. If you become neutral, the Americans will leave. Take back your invitation to the Americans and say you do not desire any more guests like that.

In any case, our policy is logical. What we say is acceptable. We told the Security Council: Ever since the start of the war, your very first duty has been to identify the aggressor. Name the aggressor and see if the war does not end. They do not accept this. They only wish to choose the following path. They say: We will give weapons, aircraft, missiles, and intelligence to Iraq. Iraq will come and hit your oil in the Persian Gulf. You should not retaliate; your oil should stop. You should not have any money, so you will surrender and not get your rights. Put very simply, this is what they say.

The United States has come to the Persian Gulf and become deeply entangled. Because of the foolish policy the United States has adopted it has reached such a dead end that, even according to them, they are to be pitied. We told them from the start: If you raise your flag on these ships, it will be difficult to remove them. They hoisted their flags. We told them: If you fire the first shot, it will not be easy to stop. Now the situation has reached the present juncture, it has reached the point of blowing up the biggest oil export pier in the region.

Now, we say it once again. We tell the United States, we tell Great Britain, we tell France, we tell the host shaykhs: There is still a way out. The issue has reached the present juncture; stop it now. Choose one of the earlier options: either for Iraq not to hit our ships or for them to become neutral; or name the aggressor as soon as possible so that we can end the war. If you do not choose one of these three paths, if you continue on your present path, then the Islamic Republic relies upon God and has very many divine shots like this. The ones which have been fired so far have been small. It is up to you to choose the correct path. We truly do not desire war. We truly will not take the first step. We did not take the first step in the war, nor did we take the first step in attacking cities, nor in the use of chemical weapons, nor at sea, nor in any of these steps taken so far. The Islamic Republic of Iran has always defended, has retaliated. It regards the policy of retaliation as its right. So long as there is blood in our veins, we will not forego this Islamic principle, the demand for justice, the persecution of the aggressor and criminal. [shouts of "God is great"]

I had prepared a sermon in Arabic for the rulers of the Persian Gulf, who are at a crossroads. They should either choose the path of Islam and be with their nations and be with us, or continue along the misguided path which they have chosen, on the side of Israel and the United States. They should expect the consequences. However, as I fear the rain will start again and as the ground is wet, with the permission of Arab sisters and brothers I will not preach the sermon in Arabic. God willing, we shall make amends for it in future sermons.

We are also grateful to our brothers from the academy who have honored our meeting with their presence. I call on all our sisters and brothers to observe divine piety.

Tehran Sees Increasing 'Protests' in Kuwait

LD251317 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1110 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Unattributed political commentary]

[Text] The explosion that occurred yesterday in the capital of Kuwait caused some material losses to a company that has a monopoly on the sale of Pan American tickets. An hour after this explosion, the sound of two more blasts was heard in Kuwait. Local officials gave no explanations. The exact number of such explosions in Kuwait so far this year is not known. However, it has been reported that during this period, at least eight or nine blasts have occurred in that country. The targets of past explosions were chiefly Kuwait's oil installations. However, this time, an American company was the target of attack.

In 1983, the French and American Embassies were attacked on separate occasions, sustaining great losses in human and material terms. In the West, it was officially declared that in these two attacks 6 people were killed and more than 80 persons were injured. Following these attacks, Kuwait every now and then experienced other occurrences of this type until 1985, when a truck loaded with explosives ran into the convoy of the amir of Kuwait. The resulting explosion killed a number of people, and the amir of Kuwait was injured. The repeated occurrence of these incidents shows that the instability and insecurity of that country have substantially increased during the current year. Moreover, the government's confrontation with opposition groups apparently has not changed the situation. A while ago, the government put on trial 16 Kuwaitis charged with blowing up Kuwait's oil installations and with taking action against the amir of Kuwait. In addition to this, a number of people were arrested on charges of collaboration or sympathy with those in opposition and were taken to prisons. However, all these pressures have not reduced the size of the opposition and protest movements of the Muslim people of Kuwait, particularly following the invitation extended by that country to the United States to come to the Persian Gulf. This move has only increased these protests. It is said that these protests have mushroomed rapidly in Kuwaiti society and are spreading very fast in the schools and universities to the extent that a fire mysteriously broke out at the University of Kuwait last month.

However, the explosion that occurred yesterday differs in two ways from the various incidents that have taken place in the past year. First, this bombing was targeted against an American company. This says something about the elements that carried it out. Second, the explosion occurred close to the Sayf Palace, the office of the amir of Kuwait. This could indicate a protest against the policies of the ruling system in Kuwait, on both the internal and external levels. The policies of the Kuwaiti Government have been opposed for some time now by political groups and parties of that country. A short while ago, the representative of the political parties of Kuwait severely criticized the imbalanced internal and foreign policies of the ruling order and called for a return to the parliamentary system and to social freedoms. Three leading members of Kuwaiti parties issued a statement that was published in *Al-Nahar* in Beirut in which they stated that the political line of the government in both foreign and domestic policy is rash and that Kuwait is being threatened in this respect and is in danger. In this statement, they said that this danger is the result of the increase in the U.S. presence in the region, and also by the escalation in the imposed war. The statement added that the sovereignty and independence of Kuwait is declining and being destroyed. In conclusion, this statement said that the people have been put aside and are being ignored.

While protests such as these are increasing in Kuwait's small and unstable society, yesterday's incidents could also cause anxiety to American statesmen in so far as it was an action directed against an American company, particularly as it is not out of the question to believe that this type of protest action could be repeated in Kuwait or in neighboring countries.

Tehran Cites AP on Tanker Attack Near Dubayy

NC240644 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] AP, citing Persian Gulf shipping sources, has reported that a 38,000-ton tanker flying the Panamanian flag was hit and set ablaze by speedboats this morning near Dubayy in the southern Persian Gulf.

Tehran Cites AP on Crash of U.S. Fighter

NC240632 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] An A-6E fighter of the U.S. Navy has crashed in the waters north of the Gulf of Oman. AP, citing U.S. Navy sources, has reported that this fighter, which came from the *Ranger* aircraft carrier, crashed 58 km from the aircraft carrier yesterday. The U.S. Navy has alleged that the pilots were saved but has refused to reveal the reason for the crash.

'Terrorist' Gang Behind Tehran Blast Arrested

LD241530 Tehran IRNA in English 1453 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 24, IRNA—A terrorist group responsible for last month's booby-trapped car bomb explosion on Keshavarz Boulevard in Tehran were arrested along with a senior Iraqi agent in Azarabyjan Bakhtari Province last week. A large amount of explosive was also seized from the terrorists.

The gang was plotting to carry out sabotage activities, such as planting bombs in key centers and densely-populated areas throughout Tehran in league with other counterrevolutionary mercenaries.

Zaher Fattah [name as received], a senior member of the terrorist group, has already been awarded several times by Iraqi dictator Saddam Husayn for his long record of subservience to the Iraqi Ba'thist regime and carrying out sabotage and terrorist acts.

Khamene'i Briefed on Gulf Developments
LD260924 Tehran IRNA in English 0825 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 26, IRNA—Imam Khomeyni's representative to the Supreme Defence Council Brigadier General 'Ali Seyyed-Shirazi met President 'Ali Khamene'i here Monday and briefed him on latest developments in the Persian Gulf. He also informed the president of the fighting power of Muslim forces of Iran.

Earlier on Sunday, Ground Force commander Brigadier General Hoseyn Hasani-Sa'di met the president and briefed him on the frontline status.

Musavi on Economic Plans for 'All-Out War'
LD251409 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] After today's Cabinet meeting the prime minister gave an interview to our correspondent:

[Begin recording] [Correspondent] Your Excellency Mr Musavi, the American actions and the general conditions in the Persian Gulf have reached the point that one can foresee the start of an all-out war. In view of this and of the issues now being raised, such as the imposition of greater economic pressures on Iran, please let us know what are the government's economic plans in the event of such a probable situation.

[Musavi] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Of course, we always regard the probability that the United States might carry out such a mad move. However, from a rational point of view, we know that such a war would cause such heavy losses for the United States and for the West that one wonders whether or not they can be so mad as to start such a clash. Today, a report was submitted to the Cabinet about the economic crisis in the West, particularly in the United States, which is quite severe. Certainly the events which have taken place in the Persian Gulf have effectively intensified the crisis. Any kind of clash with the United States will further intensify this crisis.

As far as it concerns us, we should make plans according to our capabilities. The greater part of our country's income comes from its agricultural sector. The passage of 7-8 years since the start of the war and the economic pressures and embargos which have been imposed upon us—they have always existed, except that sometimes it has been more intense than at other times—has forced us to think hard and work hard for the self-sufficiency of the country. We have achieved certain successes in this field.

In addition, today the managers in our executive organs are not so inexperienced as they were at the beginning of the revolution. On the contrary, as a result of difficulties and the ups and downs we have experienced in the course of the revolution, many strong and even exceptional and peerless managers with the ability to look ahead and form practical plans have positions of responsibility. Relying on these faithful, revolutionary, and capable forces, the government has made some contingency plans for all conditions. For a number of years, the government has been making contingency plans for different conditions of the country. Therefore, we have no worries in this connection.

What Weinberger said about the United States wanting to dry up the roots of our nation is nonsensical talk. It demonstrates the limited world view and information and reveals the stupidity of American leaders. Weinberger is an ordinary man who knows nothing of history, nor the meaning of nationhood, nor even the history of the massacres they have committed in various parts of the world. The United States does not realize that if such murder, economic embargoes, and pressures could dry up the roots of nations, then none of the nations and countries that have raised their heads from under the evil umbrella of colonialism after World War II would have been able to come into existence. There would only be the United States and a couple of other superpowers and Western countries in the world. However, we know that the emergence of various nations changed Great Britain into a destitute island which now follows behind the United States and follows U.S. policies.

When the understanding of the defense minister of a country which regards itself as a superpower is so primitive and limited, this is dangerous. When a country is that stupid, it is possible that they might engage in any action. Therefore, we are obliged to take the necessary precautions.

In any case, we find it necessary that although [words indistinct] at the end we should look to ourselves. This is the main thing. In relying on ourselves, we rely on Islam with all its might and power, on our own pious people. We rely on 1 billion ummah who are on the verge of awakening and resurgence. This is an enormous force which no one else possesses.

In my recent visit to the fraternal country of Syria, one of the discussions I had with the officials there was that no weapon is able to confront an individual's desire for martyrdom; this is the weapon we possess. On the whole, we enjoy good preparedness in economic affairs, military

affairs, weapons, and other areas. However, more important than all that is the preparedness of the people themselves which is manifested in Friday prayers and in other occasions.

[Correspondent] In the implementation of Security Council Resolution No 598 the UN secretary general recently proposed a nine-point plan on the basis of which an unofficial cease-fire and the convening of a court for identifying the aggressor is suggested. What are your views on this plan?

[Musavi] The plans of the secretary general, the Security Council, the United Nations, and other international organizations may be complex, they may be detailed or brief. However, their components [ajza'] are very simple. It has been repeatedly stated that the key for resolving the problem concerns the naming of the aggressor. It is only natural that after identifying the aggressor, the issue of punishment would be raised. This is what we discussed with the UN secretary general during his visit to our country. What is important, and in my view every proposal can be evaluated in connection with that yardstick, is the proposal to which you have referred.

Of course, recently we think the presence of the United States and its mad actions have nullified the Security Council resolution as a whole. The United States has repeatedly violated Article 5 of that resolution, fanning the flames of war. Even more that that, it can be viewed as an all-out war by the United States. We expect the Security Council and the United Nations will not repeat the bitter experience of the early days of the war when they did not support truth, did not take the side of the right, did not name the aggressor, and did not adopt a basic position on the war. They might make the same mistake in connection with the United States and not confront the issue, and then later come begging for the issue to be ended when it is too late. Today, the United States is clearly creating tension in the region. I think all those who are rational, far-sighted, and aware know clearly and without any doubt that the United States trampled Resolution No 598 underfoot. [end recording]

Weinberger Gulf Remarks Termed 'Nonsense'

LD241851 Tehran IRNA in English 1835 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 24, IRNA—Persian Gulf tension has been exacerbated since the massive presence of the U.S. forces started in mid-May, a spokesman for the War Information Headquarters (WIH) announced here today.

Said the spokesman, since the outbreak of the Iraqi-imposed war (22 September 1980) a total of 397 cargo ships and oil tankers have been attacked in the Persian Gulf, 76 of which were hit after the U.S. presence in the region.

The issue proves that contrary to Washington's claims, presence of the U.S. troops has only helped escalate attacks on ships, said the spokesman, stressing "Americans have been the major factor for heightening the crisis".

It is the Arab states of the Persian Gulf who would suffer badly due to the U.S. presence in the region, the spokesman said, "Of course Washington will ultimately be the big loser in the region", U.S. expansionist experiences have failed miserably in the past, he recalled.

He scoffed at the statements of the U.S. Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger claiming that an arms embargo against Iran would diminish the Islamic Republic's combat capabilities, resulting in annihilation of Iran's existence as a nation. "Weinberger will bury such wishful thoughts along with himself", added the spokesman.

The U.S. War (Defence) Secretary is riding on foamy waves created by Washington's propaganda apparatus, but the mere outcry of the resistance Iranian nation will turn the tides and teach Weinberger and his like to avoid cranking out such nonsense, said the spokesman.

He said Washington has now clearly come to realise that the brave Iranian nation will resolutely smash any aggression and "will set afire the nest of the aggressor like a burning meteor".

The WIH spokesman elsehwere categorically refuted allegations of the U.S. propaganda network on the presence of Chinese technicians in Iran, saying that by resorting to such baseless claims, the U.S. is attempting to pressure China in the United Nations Security Council to accept Washington's lines.
mmittee Report
NC240935 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0350 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Commentary prepared by the Central News Unit Research Group]

[Text] Following the visit by three U.S. Senators to the Persian Gulf and Iraq, the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee published a report which addresses some current regional issues and the Committee's assessment of the trend of events. Unfortunately, due to the important incident in the Persian Gulf when U.S. forces attacked two Iranian oil platforms and set one on fire, this report was overshadowed by other, more pressing incidents and ignored. Careful study and assessment of its contents can be valuable and noteworthy.

In this report, the members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee discuss several points. The first is the reflagging of Kuwaiti ships in a bid by the Reagan administration to gain credibility after the McFarlane incident. Second, U.S. policy has become linked with Iraq's war strategy. Third, the U.S. Navy's intervention

has not helped Iraq's future in the war. Fourth, Iraq cannot win the war, and there is a distinct possibility that it will be defeated. Fifth, the serious danger threatening Iraq does not come from the sea, but from land.

Therefore, this report of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee does not positively assess Reagan's Persian Gulf policy, which is obviously aimed at supporting the 'Aflaqi regime. The Committee rejects this policy on various grounds.

The important point in this report is that the conclusion drawn in view of the developments is that the presence of the U.S. Navy in the Persian Gulf does not help the future of the Iraqi regime, but seriously considers the possibility of the 'Aflaqi regime's defeat. Moreover, the tone of the report reveals that the reason for sending a U.S. military expedition to the Persian Gulf was not to safeguard navigation, but actually to confront the Islamic Revolution and to support Iraq's 'Aflaqi regime. However, this report labels this objective as defeated and states that the serious danger threatening Iraq is from land. Another noteworthy point in the report is that it explicitly states that Iraq cannot win in the war; it will probably be defeated.

Undoubtedly, one of the Reagan administration's intentions behind the dispatch of a military expedition to the Persian Gulf is to confront the Islamic Revolution and to support Iraq's 'Aflaqi regime as the first step toward this objective. However, on the basis of the said report, the possibility that the United States will attain this initial objective—that is, preserving Saddam's regime—is open for question. Despite this report, the Reagan administration has overtly shown it actually continues to hope that, by exacerbating the tension in the Persian Gulf, it will force the Islamic Republic of Iran into an imposed peace and save Saddam.

After last week's U.S. attack on Iranian oil installations in the Persian Gulf, the White House spokesman told correspondents: We have hit a military target. We repeat our demand. The war should end, Security Council Resolution No 598 should be implemented, and the naval escort should be continued as the best way to safeguard ships. Today's reaction is a message that shows the United States is firm in its determination to attain its objective: to establish peace.

The White House spokesman's remarks openly show the Reagan administration's objective behind its presence in the Persian Gulf and indicate that the Reagan administration has come to the Persian Gulf with hostile intentions toward the Islamic Revolution, primarily to support Iraq's 'Aflaqi regime. Regarding the importance of the current developments in the Persian Gulf, the importance of resisting and confronting U.S. plots in this region is clarified. On the other hand—in view of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee report—American statesmen, also, are aware of the fact that the danger threatening Saddam lies in the situation the Iraqi regime faces on its land fronts and in its internal, domestic struggles, particularly in the north. The report states that the situation in Iraqi Kurdistan is extremely critical and that the Iraqi regime's vulnerability in that region is growing daily. Meanwhile, the Saddam regime's situation on the land fronts is not favorable. Even before this, the Islamic fighters have shown they can score awesome victories against the strongest positions of the 'Aflaqi regime.

Thus, the success of Reagan's strategy of creating tensions in the Persian Gulf is being assessed negatively. The Reagan administration is doing its best to upset these conditions and to save Iraq's 'Aflaqi regime, in one way or another, from its present bottleneck.

While Washington is pursuing this objective, what becomes doubly important for the officials and Muslim people of Iran is not to forget Saddam's sedition and to keep the war fronts hot. Today, Iran's Muslim people should bear in mind that Saddam's defeat means the defeat of the United States, because the Americans are explicitly stating that their objective is to preserve Saddam and to preserve the oppressive relations that exist in the Middle East and in the world of Islam. Therefore, while we strongly confront U.S. interventions, we should not neglect the importance of Saddam's sedition. With our extensive and general mobilization, we should pave the way toward the annihilation of Iraq's 'Aflaqi regime and the definite defeat of the enemies. God willing!

Tehran on Aims, Likely Outcome of U.S. Moves

LD251556 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1115 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Unattributed political commentary]

[Text] After the negative results of the meeting between George Shultz and Soviet leaders and the failure of the efforts of Reagan's government to hold a meeting of Soviet and U.S. leaders in New York, the Reagan government's efforts to overshadow the current problems and renew its so-called mastery at home and abroad has been defeated. The main hope of Reagan's government was that following a meeting of leaders in New York and an agreement on arms control, Washington would use the meeting and its results as an important achievement both at home and abroad. In this way it could partially recover from the shame of such defeats as the McFarlane trip to Tehran, economic problems, and the confusion of Washington's Middle East policy, particularly in the Persian Gulf region.

However, it is interesting to note that Reagan's government, in addition to its deep disagreement with Congress over dispatching military forces to the Persian Gulf, is facing very complicated economic problems as a result of the unprecedented drop in share prices in the New York stock exchange to the extent that the Senate majority leader, in criticizing Reagan's economic policies, referred to the drop as a clear sign of the need to change

immediately the Reagan government's policies. Therefore, it seems that the occurrence of this unexpected event in the New York stock exchange will, from now on, be a very useful tool for those opposing Reagan in order to increase their opposition to his economic policies and to further improve their chances of success in the upcoming presidential election.

In addition, at the same time as the stock market problems and the defeat of Shultz' visit to Moscow, the difficult disagreement between Reagan's government and Senate members over the nomination of Robert Bork as a Supereme Court justice was another strong defeat, the result of a negative majority vote. In any case, all these defeats show that currently, as has been noted in the European press, the U.S. President has effectively become a lame duck president who is facing more complicated problems at home and abroad every day.

Furthermore, the possibility exists that the continuation and expansion of such problems and defeats will tilt Reagan's government toward undertaking more risks in order to compenstate for these defeats. According to several political observers, the recent adventures of Reagan's government in the Persian Gulf is without a doubt another one of the ridiculous consequences of McFarlane's defeated trip. Of course, the goals and reasons for such adventurist attitudes are not limited to restoring Reagan's reputation. Improving the chances of the Republicans in the presidential elections is among other goals that has tilted Reagan's government in this direction. However, it is very clear that the results of such adventurist and unwise policies in the future, as in the past, will only result in more defeats and further shame for Reagan's government. Under such policies, the day will come when the wings of this lame duck will be set on fire in the warm waters of the Persian Gulf by the fire of the anger of Muslim nations, thus forcibly ending its era of criminal and adventurist efforts.

Foreign Ministry Spokesman on U.S. Intentions

LD251734 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] The subject of this report concerns remarks made by the spokesman of our country's Foreign Ministry on an official report by U.S. War Minister Wienberger to the Senate, in which it was stated that should an arms embargo be implemented against Iran, Iran as a nation will be uprooted. The spokesman of our country's Foreign Ministry stated: Now, more than ever, the true intentions of the United States regarding its presence in the Persian Gulf have become clear. In his official report, the U.S. war minister revealed the true intentions of the ruling U.S. clique: the destruction of Iranian nation. Even for Iranians who have seen direct and indirect U.S. involvement in most plots against their revolution, it is not surprising to hear this. Such remarks by the U.S. war minister make it very clear why the United States has come to the region and how they should be treated.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman added: These remarks should leave those U.S. allies who believe that their naval presence by the side of the U.S. naval armada is for the sake of ensuring the security of the region in no doubt as to what sort of trap the United States has set for them and why the Iranian nation shows such a reaction to the aggressive presence of the United States. He added: Even though Weinberger's stupid remarks clearly show the level of fear and anger felt by the ruling U.S. clique against the Muslim and resistant Iranian nation, the experience of the Persian Gulf will teach the U.S. aggressors how the Iranian people will shrivel the roots of those who intend to destroy a great nation.

Khomeyni Rules Against Private Mineral Rights

LD251730 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] In response to a question by Ayatollah Safi, secretary of the Council of Guardians, on whether or not oil wells belong to specific persons—those who either own the land or who have built the wells—or are national resources; and also whether or not taking over land for mining purpose is permissible, Imam Khomeyni replied as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Your excellencies, members of the Council of Guardians, may God preserve you. Greetings. Regarding the issue of private property rights over the subsurface and air rights, the rule is based on conventional needs. For example, if a person digs a tunnel beyond the perimeter of a private house, endowed house, or a plot of land and finds something of value, the owners or guardians of the house or land cannot make any claim. Moreover, if a person builds beyond the conventional limits or passes through an area beyond such limits, the owners or the guardians have no right to obstruct him. Finally, the limit for private land rights are limited to conventional parameters, which do not encompass using modern equipment.

However, limits on the state are much broader. Therefore, the government has the right to prevent possesion beyond conventional limits. Thus, oil, gas, and resources falling outside the conventional limits for private ownership do not fall under property laws. It is wrong to assume that mines, oil, and gas are subject to private ownership, as these are national resources and belong to the people and our posterity. They are outside limits of private ownership, and the Islamic government has the right to exploit them. However, surface areas must be bought or rented, just as with other land, without taking account of subsurface resources. Nor can the owner hinder such activity.

May the blessings of God be with you. God willing, may you be successful and healthy.

[Signed] Ruhollah al-Musavi Khomeyni, 25 October 1987

Further Reportage on Visit of Indian Official

Meets With Khamene'i

LD241908 Tehran IRNA in English 1815 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 24, IRNA—In a meeting with President 'Ali Khamene'i here today, visiting speaker of the lower house of Indian Parliament Bal Ram Jakhar, describing the historical ties between Iran and India, stressed for further expansion of mutual economic and cultural relations.

Although Iran and India, have long left behind the colonial past, forces of colonialism are ever-intent to hamper their progress by always creating new troubles, he added.

The Indian speaker affirmed that the term colonialism has been replaced with the so-called protecting of interests, and has entered the stage in a new garb.

In response President Khamene'i noted that one of the principles of the Islamic Republic's foreign policy is to establish firm relations with countries having historical records of fighting the oppressors.

"We have decided to strengthen our relations with the developing countries, who are standing against the colonialists", he added.

Referring to the unauthoritized presence of the U.S. in the region, the president of the Islamic Republic said, "Today we are witnessing the illegal presence of the world powers, especially of the U.S. and its Western allies in the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean. This is something which has brought about insecurity for the littoral countries," he stressed.

The regional countries should not remain neutral concerning this provocating military presence in the region, emphasized Khamene'i.

He further said, that all those countries who are interested in preserving the peace and tranquility of the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean, should realize their responsibility and react against this encroachment.

Khamene'i on U.S. Presence

LD242303 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Excerpts] Mr Bal Ram Jakhar, the speaker of the Indian Parliament, was received by President Khamene'i today. We have a report on this meeting:

Mr Bal Ram Jakhar, the speaker of the Indian Parliament, who has come to our country at the head of a high-ranking parliamentary delegation, was received by President Khamene'i this morning. [passage omitted]

Referring to the fact that colonialistic greed would not end with the severence of political influence, Mr Khamene'i said: Colonialism continues its mischiefs with various forms of provocations, conspiracies, and evil deeds toward the oppressed countries. This makes it necessary for the developing countries to come closer to each other and strengthen their bonds.

Referring to the aggressive American presence in the region, the president said: Today, we are witnessing the aggressive and bullying presence of world arrogance and the big powers, partricularly the United States and the Western powers, in the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean. This has created an uncertain situation for all regional countries. Therefore, the regional countries must not remain indifferent to the aggressive military presence of these powers, for the presence of these powers presages military action on their part.

He added: The military attacks and acts of aggression so far committed by the United States in the Persian Gulf region appear on the surface to be against the Islamic Republic of Iran; in fact, they are directed against the security of all regional countries.

Stressing the point that the Islamic Republic of Iran will never leave such shows of strenth by the United States unanswered, the president said: The U.S. Government knows full well that the Iranian nation is not in the least frightened of its displays of strength and will definitely reply to its aggressions.

He stated: Of course, all those governments who want peace and tranquillity in the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean have a responsibility concerning these aggressions and must react accordingly.

Referring to the influence of colonialist powers on other nations, the president said the various differences among th nations are results of the calculated plots hatched by those powers. He said: Governments should resist these differences with the utmost alertness and by adopting wise policies, as Gandhi resisted these tricks at the cost of his life. [passage omitted]

Confers With Musavi

LD241918 Tehran IRNA in English 1845 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 24, IRNA—Visiting speaker of the lower house (Lok Sabha) of the Indian Parliament Bal Ram Jakhar, met Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi here Saturday.

Stressing that there are various fields for expansion of Tehran-New Delhi relations Jakhar considered frequent exchange of views between the two countries' officials 'effective' for promotion of bilateral ties.

On presence of foreign forces in the Persian Gulf, Jakhar said whatever happens in the region not only makes Iran anxious but also causes anxiety to all regional countries, especially India.

In response, the premier briefed Jakhar on Iran's policy of expanding economic relations with Third World countries and said the Islamic Republic believes that there is no hinderence to the progress of relations between Iran and India.

On superpower presence in the region, Musavi said the Islamic Republic reiterates that Persian Gulf security is the responsibility of only the littoral states.

Adverting to crisis created by the U.S. as well as the U.N. Security Council's unreliable actions, the prime minister said Iran believes non-aligned movement can and should face the issues of the region more actively.

Jakhar heading a five-man parliamentary delegation arrived here last week for a five-day friendly visit in response to the visit of Iranian Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani to India three years ago.

Second Round of Talks Held

LD251203 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] The second round of talks between Bal Ram Jakhar, the speaker of the Indian parliament, and Hashemi-Rafsanjani was held this morning.

According to our correspondent, the meeting was attended by a number of Majlis deputies and the ambassadors of the two countries. The speaker of the Indian parliament stated: The visit was very beneficial to us and allowed us to hear the views of the Islamic Republic's officials. In the course of contacts with your people, we saw that they enjoy high and natural morale and are busy at their creative tasks. The speaker of the Indian parliament added: I return to my country knowing that there is much ground for expanding and strengthening bilateral relations and that our two countries hold common views on the methods used by global arrogance. Moreover, the two sides believe that developing countries should rely on each other and enjoy close cooperation. Concerning the tensions caused by the presence of the United States and its allies in the region, Bal Ram Jakhar said: I believe the region should be protected from external interference and we should be left alone to resolve our own differences. In conclusion, the speaker of the Indian parliament invited Hashemi-Rafsanjani to visit India once again.

Expressing his pleasure to the Indian parliamentary delegation for their well-placed views on bilateral and regional issues, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: At the present time, the global situation is such that the hegemonist and colonial movements have consolidated their blocs by forming strong groupings. However, the oppressed nations and those of the Nonaligned Movement have not enjoyed the same harmony. If we had acted as the nonaligned, the NATO countries would never have dared to dispatch their forces to our region. The majority of the nonaligned countries are unhappy about this NATO move, but an organization set up to publicize their views in the world is not strong or active. From one day to another, it can be the turn of any nonaligned member country.

The speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly expressed the wish that the visit by the speaker of the Indian parliament and his entourage would lead to increased cooperation and harmony between the two parliaments.

At the meeting, Hashemi-Rafsanjani accepted the invitation of the speaker of the Indian parliament to visit that country and stated he would do so at an opportune time.

Majlis Speaker on Solutions to War

LD251835 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] Mr Bal Ram Jakhar, speaker of the Indian Parliament, who had come to our country at the head of a parliamentary delegation, left Tehran for Delhi this afternoon. He was seen off by Majlis Speaker Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

Before leaving Tehran, he told our correspondent: We are members of the nonaligned countries and follow a nonaligned policy. We believe that the military presence of foreign powers in the region creates absolute danger, and that this danger would increase with a build up of these forces. He added: We want a region which is peaceful for all regional countries.

He termed his talks with our country's high-ranking officials extremely fruitful, noting they would lead to an expansion of mutual relations. He once again invited Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani to visit India.

Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the Majlis speaker and the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council, expressed his pleasure with the visit. Regarding the visit by the speaker of the Indian parliament and the parliamentary delegation accompanying him, he said: The Indian parliament speaker's visit took place at a time when the Indian Ocean has been invaded by NATO forces. India is one of the countries that is sensitive to this unjust presence, just as we are. He added: Both countries are against the presence of foreigners in the region. We must make a concerted effort with other nonaligned countries to eliminate this extortionist presence.

Referring to the suitable ground for expanding mutual relations, Hashemi-Rafsanjani expressed the hope that such visits would be effective in mutual relations.

Regarding the plan proposed by the UN secretary general, he told our correspondent: The general points of this plan have been announced before. The plan agrees to establishing a committee to determine the aggressor. A cease-fire has also been proposed. However, no timeframe has been allocated for either. Our view is that a cease-fire should become effective after the aggressor has been determined.

Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: There are two—diplomatic and military—solutions to this issue. The diplomatic solution is the naming of the aggressor; and the military solution is the overthrow of the aggressor. If the Security Council does its duty, the first solution seems more logical.

3 Men Executed for Drug Trafficking

LD250152 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] In continuation of the relentless fight against narcotics dealers and in accordance with the verdict of the Tehran Islamic Revolution Courts in the fight against narcotics, three professional, international narcotics smugglers were sentenced to death. The sentences were carried out in public today.

According to our correspondent's report, the three were Mortez Balujani, son of Bu'ali; Morad Haselasari, son of Nurmohammad; and Mohammad Moshkelgosha, son of Hasan. They were sentenced to death for their long-standing involvement in heroin trafficking, before and after the victory of the revolution; their connections with international smugglers; murder; transhipping narcotics from Zahedan to Tehran; and making young people addicts.

Official on Narcotics HQ, Tribal Security

NC260845 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Text] The deputy for Information and Operations of the Islamic revolution committees has stated that the plan for setting up the Muhammad Rasulollah Headquarters in the east of the country to fight decisively against smugglers and to uproot drug trafficking from the country will be implemented soon. He said that details of the plan have been prepared by officials of the Islamic revolution committees and have been handed over to the heads of the three branches of power for final approval. He added that with the implementation of this plan, which will enjoy comprehensive and great air and land potentials, all the country's eastern areas and borders—from Khorasan to Baluchestan va Sistan Provinces—will be covered. The main bases of drug distribution networks, traffickers, insurgents, and smugglers in the country will be destroyed once and for all in three stages of [words indistinct]. He added: Also, during the first half of the current year [Iranian year beginning 21 March], more than 500 kg of drugs were found and confiscated through the efforts of selfless guards of the Islamic Revolution Committees.

Commenting on the decisive struggles against counter-revolutionary elements and dependent groupings, he said: During the current year, elements of several operation teams of groupings, especially of the Monafeqin [Mojahedin-e Khalq] were killed or arrested by brothers of the Islamic Revolution Committees.

On ensuring the security of the country's brave tribes—a duty assigned recently to the Islamic revolution committees—he said: The necessary planning for this has started. By the end of the current year, 40 stationary and roving bases are to be set up in the country's tribal areas. These units will reach the level required within the next Iranian year. He said that the roving bases will move together with the tribes during their migration in order to ensure their security.

SAIRI Chairman Briefs Khamene'i on Operations

LD251657 Tehran IRNA in English 1640 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 25, IRNA—Chairman of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI) Hojjat ol-Eslam Muhammad Baqir al-Hakim met President 'Ali Khamene'i here today and briefed him on the successful military operations carried out by the Iraqi mujahideen and Hezbollah inside Iraqi territory recently. Hojjat ol-Eslam al-Hakim also informed the president about the future plans of SAIRI forces.

Condemning the unauthorized presence of the U.S. fleet in the Persian Gulf, Hoj. al-Hakim considered these futile efforts on the part of the U.S. as an outcome of its fear of the Muslim peoples of the region.

He said the U.S. has stepped in, in a bid to overshadow victories of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the war fronts, and out of the sense of danger felt by the imminent fall of Saddam (Husayn).

In response President Khamene'i stressed the need for establishing closer contacts with the Iraqi mujahideen and acknowleged the significance of the militant activities on Iraqi soil.

Iraqi Rebels Kill Shaqlawah Governor, Others

LD251512 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] According to a report from Ramadan Headquarters, center for the irregular operations of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, the Peshmerga of the Kurdish Democratic Party of Iraq, over the past few days, in an operation, penetrated the city of Shaqlawah in Iraq's Irbil Province. They killed eleven elements of the Ba'thist party of Iraq, among

whom was Kamal Hasan Husayn, the governor of the city of Shaqlawah, and a number of the officials of the Ba'th Party of that city. This report states: in this clash eleven troops of the enemy were injured and some weapons, ammunition, and three vehicles belonging to the Ba'thist forces fell into the hands of the Peshmerga of the Kurdish Democratic Party.

Afghan Group Offers To Send Forces to Gulf

LD241321 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] IRNA reports that the Islamic coalition Council [Shora-ye E'telaf-e Islami] of Afghanistan issued a statement today expressing readiness to dispatch its forces to the Persian Gulf region. The statement denounces recent American attacks in the Persian Gulf. It says: These attacks on the Reshadat oil platform stem from its expansionist policy and its arrogant and vindictive character in response to its repeated defeats from the Iranian Islamic revolution and system. If his eminence the imam should decide to so command, we are prepared to enter into action against American interests in the Persian Gulf or any other place.

Ashura Division Ready To Crush U.S. 'Plots'

LD241312 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] The commanders and fighters of the Ashura Division have declared their full preparedness to go to the Persian Gulf to crush the plots of the criminal United States. According to an IRNA report, at a gathering convened for this occasion and attended by the commanders of brigades, battalions, and bases of this division, one of the commanders affirmed the preparedness of the brave personnel of this division to confront selflessly the aggressive plots of the criminal United States and stand alongside the resistant people of Iran. He added: We are prepared to go to the Persian Gulf with all the strength we have anywhere that those in authority permi. We will turn the waters of that region into a graveyard for the coffins of American mercenaries.

Combat Operations Against Iraq Continue

Communique No 2,998

LD231638 Tehran IRNA in English 1621 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 23, IRNA—A patrol unit of the Muslim combatants infiltrated enemy's defense lines near Sardasht early Thursday morning and killed 11 Iraqi Ba'thists and captured one of them. The base was completely destroyed.

The 2998 Joint Staff Communique said that Iran's Navy intercepted and inspected 12 commercial ships and oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz Thursday but allowed them to proceed after finding out that they were not carrying any suspicious cargo for Iraq.

In the meantime mine detecting units of the Iranian Navy discovered a mine in the Persian Gulf waters on October 20 and defused it.

In the northwestern fronts, the Muslim combatants heavily shelled enemy positions inflicting considerable casualties on enemy troops.

In the Western fronts, Muslim combatants checked the movement of an armored convoy of the enemy which sustained losses in men and equipment. The artillery fire of Muslim combatants also checked the movement of an artillery convoy of the Iraqi Ba'thists, in Kani-Sheykh operational region.

In southern fronts Iran's forces pounded Iraqi positions, supply axis and patrol units and disrupted enemy's defensive moves and prevented the operation of their patrol units in Chazabeh, Eynkhosh and Yebis in which the enemy sustained considerable casualties.

Exchange of artillery fire in operational regions of Kushk and Majnun Island was heavier than in other places where at least ten artillery emplacements, three anti-aircraft emplacements, two munition dumps and several heavy and light vehicles were destroyed.

Communique No 2,999

LD241812 Tehran IRNA in English 1745 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 24, IRNA—Iran's Navy gunboats intercepted and searched a cargo ship, an oil tanker and a tug boat in the Strait of Hormuz Friday but allowed them to continue voyage after being satisfied there was no Iraqi-bound cargo aboard them.

Announcing the above, the 2999th Joint Staff Communique reported here Saturday that Iran's Muslim forces continued their battle with Iraqi troops throughout the battlefields Friday, inflicting heavy losses in men and equipment on enemy troops.

A number of Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and parts of enemy fortifications destroyed in Chananeh and Chegha Hammam theaters, Western sector, by Iranian artillery fire Friday.

In Panjwin and Eynkhosh, northwestern and southern sectors, the Muslim combatants inflicted heavy damage on six enemy tanks Friday, silencing enemy fire. They also prevented the enemy from landing commandos in the war theaters.

Iraqi troops attempting to move their vehicle and armoured columns in Chazabeh, Helaleh and Anjireh, western and southern sectors, Friday sustained several casualties and losses by Iranian artillery fire.

Iranian artillery fire prevented Iraqi engineering units from setting up barricades such as canals and embankments in Hoseyniyeh, Yebis, Nahr 'Anbar and west of Jofeyr, southern fronts, Friday, inflicting considerable casualties and losses on them.

Elsewhere in the southern fronts, Iranian Genarmerie forces checked Iraqi combat-engineering operations Friday, killing or wounding a number of enemy soldiers and setting ablaze at least 10 gun emplacements of theirs, concluded the communique.

Communique No 3,000

LD251605 Tehran IRNA in English 1551 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 25, IRNA—In an effort to cut Iraq's access to any military-related goods, Iran's Navy gunboats intercepted and searched 10 cargo ships and oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz Saturday but allowed them to continue voyage since there was no Iraqi-destined cargo aboard them, said a military communique here Sunday.

The 3000th Joint Staff Communique added Iran's Muslim forces heavily shelled Iraqi positions and supply routes throughout the fronts Saturday, inflicting heavy casualties and losses on the enemy.

In the southern fronts, Iranian Gendarmerie forces responded to Iraqi artillery fire Saturday, killing several enemy soldiers and destroying 15 gun emplacements and a vehicle of theirs. In Nahr 'Anbar, Iraqi vehicle columns sustained heavy losses under Iranian artillery fire.

Iran's Muslim combatants reconnoitered and shelled an Iraqi patrol unit in Qasr-e Shirin, western sector, Saturday, inflicting some casualties on enemy patrols and forcing them to flee.

The artillery fire of Iranian forces checked Iraqi engineering operations in Sumar, Mehran, Hoseyniyeh and west of Jofeyr, western and southern sectors, Saturday, inflicting considerable casualties on enemy troops, concluding the communique.

Pakistan

Shi'ite Rally Protests U.S. Attack on Oil Rig

BK24044 Hong Kong AFP in English 0232 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] Karachi, Pakistan, Oct 23 (AFP)—Some 400 Shi'ite Moslems staged a rally here Friday [23 October] to protest the recent U.S. attack on an Iranian oil platform in the gulf, police said.

The protest march, in defiance of a local ban on gatherings of five or more people imposed on Thursday, began shortly after Friday prayers and lasted about 45 minutes. The demonstrators denounced the U.S. attack and "American interference in the gulf."

Protest Lodged With DRA Over Kurram Shelling

BK251622 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] Kabul regime forces fired eight rounds of artillery in the Teri Mangal area of Kurram Agency on Monday [19 October] injuring three Afghan refugees. A strong protest has been lodged with the Afghan charge d'affaires in Islamabad over the unprovoked attack.

4 Killed, 17 Injured in Peshawar Bomb Blast

BK231540 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] A bomb blast occurred at Badaber Scheme Chowk near Peshawar this afternoon in which 4 persons were killed and 17 injured. The injured were rushed to Lady Reading Hospital where the condition of six is said to be critical. The bomb was planted under a (?cabin) of fruits. The blast damaged a nearby hotel and a vegetable shop as well.

President Mohammad Ziaul Haq condemned the bomb blast near Peshawar today. In a telephone call from Bangkok, the president condemned the subversive elements responsible for the blast. The president also expressed his condolences to the bereaved families and prayed for the early recovery of the injured.

President Says Thailand Visit 'Successful'

BK250950 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] Talking to newsmen at the airport on his return to Islamabad last night after a 4-day state visit to Thailand, the president described his visit as very successful. He also described as satisfactory his talks with King Phumiphon Adunyadet and Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon during which regional and international issues were discussed. The president said Thailand, which has supported Pakistan at the United Nations on the Afghanistan problem in the past, has affirmed that it will again support Islamabad at the UN General Assembly debate on this problem.

President Mohammad Ziaul Haq said the governments of the two countries have decided to set up a joint committee on trade and industry to promote bilateral economic and commercial relations. The Thai Government will soon send a delegation of businessmen to Pakistan to discuss this matter. He said bilateral trade, which currently amounts to $90 million per annum, presently favors Pakistan.

His visit to Bangkok and talks between members of the chambers of commerce and industry of Pakistan and Thailand will further promote trade and industrial cooperation between two countries. He said the Thai Government and businessmen are interested in setting up joint ventures in the fields of cotton textiles, fishery, and leather goods. He said Pakistan will take interest in these joint ventures in the private sector.

The president said he has invited the Thai king and the prime minister to visit Pakistan. The invitations have been accepted.

Reportage on Iranian Finance Minister's Visit

Arrives in Islamabad 24 Oct

LD250100 Tehran IRNA in English 1750 GMT 24 Oct 87

[Text] Islamabad, Oct. 24, IRNA—Iranian Minister of Economic and Financial Affairs Mohammad Javad Iravani arrived here Saturday at the head of a 35-man ranking delegation. Upon his arrival at Islamabad airport, Iravani termed trade relations between Iran and Pakistan as excellent. Increase of trade exchanges between the two countries reached dlrs. 300 million last year which shows a 2.5 fold growth compared to the previous year.

The Islamic Republic continues to implement development projects despite the direct and indirect expenditures of the imposed war, he noted, stressing Iran has 'no foreign debts'. On the contrary big industrialized countries like France owe the Islamic Republic billions of dollars, he added.

Iravani's Pakistani counterpart Mian Mohammad Yasin Khan Wattoo who welcomed the Iranian delegation told IRNA that his country regards the Iranian delegation's visit as 'very valuable'. He expressed hope the visit would help further improve two countries' relations.

In reply to a question if there are special issues to be put forth at the Tehran-Islamabad joint economic commission, the Pakistani minister said the commission will study all issues concerning bilateral trade relations.

Iravani told IRNA that the delegation will hold talks with Pakistani officials on issues concerning various trade exchanges as well a ways to promote bilateral ties.

Cordial viewpoint between the two countries' delegations plays a key part in enhancing bilateral trade exchanges, Iravani said. The two sides will also put on the agenda discussions on two textile plants in Pakistan's Baluchestan Province jointly invested by the two countries, the operation of Zahedan-Quetta railroad as well as other issues, he concluded.

Joint Commission Meets 25 Oct

BK251550 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] The Pakistan-Iran ministerial commission's meeting began in Islamabad today. The meeting established six working groups in the areas of trade and oil, communications, agricultural and industrial cooperation, culture, education and scientific cooperation, and economic and financial matters.

In their 2-day meeting, these groups will finalize their recommendations and submit them to the final session of the commission. The meeting also reviewed the pace of implementation of decisions made at past meetings of the commission.

In his opening remarks, the Pakistani delegation leader, the federal minister for finance and economic affairs, Mian Mohammad Yasin Khan Wattoo, said the establishment of the joint commission has provided an institutional framework for the promotion of close cooperation between two countries.

The Iranian delegation leader, Mohammad Javad Iravani, said the current session of the commission will prove helpful in promoting existing Pakistan-Iran relations in various fields.

Earlier, the finance ministers of Pakistan and Iran met in Islamabad and discussed ways to boost bilateral cooperation in economic, agricultural, and other fields. Pakistan's finance minister said Islamabad will take every possible step to promote cooperation with Iran in various fields. The Iranian finance minister said the third meeting of Pakistan-Iran ministerial commission will prove a good beginning toward improving the scope of cooperation between the two countries.

The Iranian minister and members of his delegation also met with Federal Minister for Commerce Dr Mahbubul Haq and discussed with him matters of mutual interest. The two sides expressed the hope bilateral trade will increase in future.

Meets Agriculture Minister

LD261003 Tehran IRNA in English 0935 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Text] Islamabad, Oct. 26, IRNA—Visiting Iranian Minister of Economic and Financial Affairs Mohammad Javad Iravani met and talked here Monday with his Pakistani counterpart, Mohammad Ibrahim Baluch [Pakistani food, agriculture and cooperatives minister]

Baluch said Pakistan is willing to cooperate with the Islamic Republic of Iran in agricultural fields. An agreement was reached to dispatch 70 Pakistani veterinarians and 10 agriculture experts to Iran. Iran is to send an

experts team in stabilisation of sands. The Iranian minister heading a delegation is attending the third joint session of Iran-Pakistan economic cooperation.

Sri Lanka

LTTE, IPKF Battle for Jaffna Nearing End

Fighting Continues at Kokavil

BK231415 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 1408 GMT 23 Oct 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Oct 23 (*Lanka Puwath*)—The LTTE viciously shot dead two Sri Lankan doctors in the Jaffna hospital when the LTTE felt that the hospital coming under the IPKF [Indian Peacekeeping Force] was imminent, an official of the Indian High Commission in Colombo told a press briefing this evening.

The IPKF did not violate the sanctity of the Jaffna hospital by firing at it despite provocative and hostile action by the LTTE. The hospital is intact and the IPKF has declared it a free zone.

The 300 patients in the hospital are receiving the best possible attention from both the Sri Lankan and IPKF medical units.

The IPKF also air dropped food packets and the IPKF force is also providing refugees with food.

The Indian Peace Keeping Force continues its steady advance. The points captured by the IPKF in the Jaffna town is being consolidated.

The peace keeping force is also engaged in the clearing of mines and booby traps.

Fighting continues on the Jaffna-Kankesanthurai axis at Kokavil. Fighting between the IPKF and LTTE is also raging around the Jaffna university area.

The IPKF which advanced from Kopai South into the town is now quite close to the Nallur Temple.

Over loud-hailers the IPKF is requesting civilians who are in the temple to leave the temple.

In the eastern sector of Sri Lanka and IPKF foot patrol of 12 were caught in a landmine cum LTTE ambush in Kalawanchikudi in which one officer and two soldiers lost their lives. Three were injured.

In an exchange of fire between the ambushed soldiers and the LTTE, three LTTE terrorists were killed.

An IPKF raid on an explosives dump controlled by the EROS at Mahilawattuwan across the lagoon the IPKF seized three MMG, two rocket launchers, four mortars, eleven AK-47 rifles, 48 RPG shells, two SMG, two SLR, 20 kg of gelegnite and 54 15mm bombs. [sentence as received]

The IPKF casualty list is 133 dead, 401 injured and 27 missing.

LTTE Ammo Dump Discovered

BK231615 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] In Sri Lanka, the peacekeeping force has further consolidated its position in Jaffna town and has secured areas around (Bambardi) girls high school after taking control of the Jaffna hospital. It also discovered a large ammunition dump of the LTTE this morning, which is heavily booby-trapped. An official spokesman said in New Delhi this evening that the peacekeeping force is engaged in the removal of booby traps from the ammunition dump. He said the presence of LTTE in Jaffna city is under pressure from all directions and all escape routes from the city have been blocked. The spokesman said the LTTE men are still firing at the Jaffna hospital where doctors of the peacekeeping force are now attending to the sick and the wounded. He said, unmindful of the safety of the patients and medical staff, the LTTE sent radio messages calling for heavy mortar firing and directed the firing at the hospital which was later secured by the peacekeeping force.

The entire southern Jaffna is now under the control of the peacekeeping force. An official of the peacekeeping force told a team of visiting newsmen at Palaly today that it suffered casualties because every effort was made to avert civilian casualties. The All India Radio correspondent who visited Jaffna along with the team, reports that because of the precautionary measures taken by the peacekeeping force, Jaffna city did not suffer much damage.

In the eastern district of Batticaloa a peacekeeping force foot patrol was caught in a land mine and ambushed. One officer and two soldiers were killed and three others were injured. Immediately after the landmine blast, armed men killed at least 12 civilians in the area. A large stock of arms and ammunition was captured by the peacekeeping force in the Batticaloa area. They include 22 rifles, 3 heavy machine guns, 3 rocket launchers and 2 mortars, besides a large quantity of ammunition.

In Jaffna area, because of heavy rain, peacekeeping force helicopters could not resume their operations today to drop food packets. Two thousand food packets were dropped by the peacekeeping force yesterday for the affected Tamil population.

IPKF Block Escape Routes

BK240531 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0504 GMT 24 Oct 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Oct 24 (*Lanka Puwath*)—India's Foreign Office said Friday that the Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF) had blocked escape routes of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and had further consolidated its positions in Jaffna city.

The Indian soldiers are part of the July 29 Indo-Lanka peace accord aimed at ending the ethnic strife in the island country, states a news agency report from New Delhi monitored by *Lanka Puwath*.

"The IPKF has established commanding positions following link-up of columns from the western and eastern directions in Jaffna city," a Foreign Office spokesman said.

He said the IPKF had also captured a "heavily booby trapped" ammunition dump.

He said IPKF had secured the Jaffna hospital and Army doctors were now attending to the sick and the wounded.

The spokesman said heavy rains Friday had prevented airdropping of food packets to people who have taken shelter at several places in Jaffna city. Meanwhile, a report from eastern Batticaloa said that IPKF had located a large cache of arms and recovered 22 rifles, three heavy machine guns, TOW rocket launchers and several mortars.

LTTE Getting 'Vicious'

BK241440 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 1425 GMT 24 Oct 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Oct 24 (*Lanka Puwath*)—The IPKF has now encircled the Jaffna town and is engaged in knocking out pockets of resistance. It would have been only a matter of time before this half a kilometer was taken but our concern for civil lives that makes this issue a bit testing, said Major General A.S. Kalkut to newsmen at Palaly Base Airport in northern Sri Lanka this morning. [sentence as received]

The representatives of the media from all over the world were flown into Jaffna on a request made by a section of the press for independent on the spot surveys.

Major General Kalkut said that the LTTE was getting more and more vicious. He said that a radio intercept from Jaffna had called for an attack on a temple. Desecration of a place of worship was now of no importance to the LTTE, he said.

Major General Kalkut said that the LTTE had tried their utmost to prevent refugees receiving food and succour.

The chief of operations further said that the IPKF is under severe constraint. The forces are not using their full combat power in order to minimize casualties of civil life and property.

The half a kilometer of area that has not fallen into IPKF hands is because that small strip is thickly populated.

The speed of the operation has been reduced as a result of observing restraints.

He also said that a large number of weapons have been seized following a raid on a "dump".

Sounds of gun fire and heavy shelling were heard by newsmen while they were being conducted around the Jaffna Fort.

When asked about the sounds a senior IPKF officer, pointed his forefinger towards the Regal Cinema Jaffna and said "from behind that position".

IPKF casualty list: 160 killed (including 12 officers), 554 injured, and 38 missing.

Indians Take Gurunagar

BK250912 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] The Peacekeeping Force [PKF] has taken nearly 80 percent of Jaffna town under its control. Flushing-out operations are in full swing. In an overnight operation, the PKF took full control of the Gurunagar area. It also contacted the Hindu College area and faced exchange of fire from the LTTE men. It is understood that some refugees are in the Hindu College area. To provide succor and relief to the refugees, today the PKF have planned to distribute nearly 12 tons of foodgrains to the refugees assembled in various places. Specialist doctors have already been sent to Jaffna. Power and water supply to the hospital has been restored.

The Sri Lankan High Commissioner in India, Mr Bernard Tilakaratna, has said that New Delhi and Colombo are in constant touch on the situation in the northern peninsula and steps are being taken for the final effort to secure Jaffna from the militants. Speaking to newsmen in New Delhi, he said measures have also been taken to provide amnesty to those who hand over arms to the PKF.

LTTE Making 'Final Stand'

BK251202 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] As the IPKF closed in on the last stronghold of the LTTE, an official spokesman said in New Delhi that LTTE terrorists were trying to escape from the city

[Jaffna] in small batches in boats. Major General A.S. Kalkat, chief of the operations of the IPKF in Jaffna, told the first group of correspondents from Colombo to visit Jaffna, yesterday, that he could not say how long it would take to complete the operation. The major general said that the LTTE was putting up a final stand in an area of 1 square kilometer. Approach roads to the area had been heavily mined and almost all buildings booby trapped, he said, adding that land mines had (?inflated) casualties and slowed the advancement of the troops. He said that the Indian casualties had risen to 159 dead and 554 wounded. The LTTE casualties are believed to be over 650 dead with 80 captured. The Indian official said that 8,000 bombs hidden inside the Jaffna court house by the LTTE had been recovered in the past 2 days and that a search was on for another ammunition dump believed to be in the southern part of the Jaffna Peninsula.

In New Delhi, a government spokesman said that the LTTE military commander in Jaffna town has been killed in combat with the Indian soldiers. An intercepted LTTE radio message said terrorist commander Santhosam died along with 60 terrorists in continuing fighting in Jaffna since Friday [23 October].

A nongovernment spokesman in the southern city of Madras said that an Indian Army column has entered the university campus and is presently engaged in clearing the area of LTTE resistance. All India Radio reported this morning that the IPKF took full control of the Gurunagar area in an overnight operation. The Indian soldiers are making arrangements to distribute 12 tons of food to refugees assembled in the area.

All LTTE Headquarters Captured

BK251616 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] In Sri Lanka, the peacekeeping force secured more areas in Jaffna today. It has captured all the headquarters of the LTTE, besides overcoming their organized resistance. The leaders of the LTTE are believed to have fled the town. The entire Jaffna, except a 1 square kilometer area, is now under the control of the PKF. Disclosing this to newsmen, a spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry said this evening that what remains in Jaffna is individual resistance by the LTTE men. This could also be overcome shortly, he said. The spokesman said arrangements have been made to provide food to about 80,000 people in Jaffna. The PKF is also supplying rations from its own food stocks. One vehicle of the PKF carrying food supplies from Palaly was damaged near Nallur Kandasamy Temple. Arrangements are also being made to restore electricity in Jaffna town. Earlier, the LTTE men had blown off the high tension wire supplying power to the town.

The spokesman said the PKF is continuing operations to flush out snipers and to defuse booby traps. During the last 24 hours, four peacekeeping force personnel were killed and three wounded.

Indians Control All of Jaffna

BK260314 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Text] In Sri Lanka, the peacekeeping force is now in full control of Jaffna. A spokesman of the PKF told a group of visiting newsmen that the pincer movement from the northwest has linked up with the Jaffna brigade, bringing the last LTTE stronghold under their control. The commander of the PKF, Lieutenant General Deepender Singh, and a spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry declared Jaffna a free city last night and said the immediate task now will be to provide medical relief and resume supply of civic amenities. Even as a group of journalists was being taken round the strife-torn town, huge blasts could be heard as the sappers of the PKF detonated hundreds of land mines and booby traps.

The spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry said yesterday's achievements will hasten the implementation of the Indo-Sri Lankan agreement and the process of normalization will start soon. He said the PKF and the Sri Lankan Government still guarantee amnesty and personal security to the LTTE cadres who give up their arms and accept the agreement. Most of the LTTE members are reported to be mixing with the civilian population and leaving the town. The LTTE leader, Mr Prabhakaran, is reported to have left a few days earlier. The remaining isolated pockets of LTTE resistance are being flushed out by the PKF.

The All India Radio correspondent reports from Jaffna that a massive relief supply to the refugees is being planned today. The PKF distributed over 16 tons of foodstuffs to the refugees located in different areas, including the Nallur Kandasamy Temple, Hindu College, the cathedral, and hospital yesterday. At the Nallur Temple, a citizens relief committee has been formed from among the refugees to assist in the distribution of supplies. A truck of relief convoy was blown up by a remote control mine yesterday. One PKF soldier was killed and three others injured in the incident.

LTTE Expected To Revert to Guerrilla War

BK260924 Hong Kong AFP in English 0857 GMT 26 Oct 87

[Text] Colombo, Oct 26 (AFP)—The fall of the Sri Lankan Tamil rebels' stronghold of Jaffna will not end the separatist's guerrilla war, Indian and Sri Lankan military officials said Monday.

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) fighters ousted Sunday will move to Sri Lanka's multi-ethnic Eastern Province and continue their guerrilla war for a homeland from there, the officials said.

India's southern military commander, Lieutenant General Depinder Singh, was quoted by the *Press Trust of India* Sunday as declaring Jaffna a "free city", 17 days after Indian troops launched an offensive to disarm the LTTE.

A Sri Lankan military official said the LTTE has considerable popular support in the Eastern Province.

"Already, the Indian troops have stepped up patrols and checks in the northeastern Trincomalee and eastern Batticaloa Districts to look for LTTE men slipping into the area," the official said.

PTI said LTTE leader Velupillai Prabhakaran and an estimated 1,200 of his men had fled into the jungles after Indian troops gained full control of Jaffna town, the LTTE headquarters for the past four years.

A Roman Catholic priest in Batticaloa contacted by telephone said LTTE men who used to roam the town at will had gone underground.

"They (the LTTE) will probably carry out sporadic attacks on the Indian peace keeping troops here to keep up the tempo of their struggle," the priest said.

An Indian military source said the India Peace-Keeping Force has crippled the LTTE and it would take at least 10 years before the rebels could amass the weapons and men they have lost.

As around 10,000 Indian soldiers consolidated their gains in the northern Jaffna Peninsula, New Delhi announced Sunday that it will send an unspecified number of civil servants to help in the administration of the battle-scarred town.

The Indian spokesman in New Delhi said the Indian troops "will need some civilian advisers to perform the task of looking after the requirements of the local population in the matter of civil administration."

Indian High Commission officials here were unavailable for comment Monday.

An Indian spokesman in Jaffna told reporters Sunday that New Delhi was ready to begin a political dialogue with the LTTE if the group laid down its weapons and accepted a July 29 Indo-Sri Lanka peace accord aimed at ending four years of Tamil separatist violence.

The Indian Peace Keeping Force, between 20,000 and 25,000 strong, was established under the accord.

Four Indian troops died during flushing-out operations in Jaffna Sunday, raising the number of Indian deaths to 163 since the offensive began October 8.

More than 550 Indian soldiers have been wounded, while an estimated 650 rebels have been killed during the fighting.

Treaty With India To Include Peace Accord Ideas

BK240543 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0452 GMT 24 Oct 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Oct 24 (*Lanka Puwath*)—The ideas contained in the letters exchanged as a part of the Indo-Lanka peace accord will be incorporated in a treaty with India, President Jayewardene yesterday told the Seventh Convocation of the Bandaranaike Centre for International Studies in Colombo.

In a wide-ranging speech in which he warmly complimented Mr. S.W.R.D. Bandaranaike's foreign policy initiatives, the president explained the Indian role in the current conflict.

Explaining the history of the problem and the predicament that Sri Lanka was placed in, he said that in July this year, Mr. Gandhi moved from a position of mediator to one of collaborator.

The president hoped that the treaty he intended entering with India would be an example to other countries in the region.

On the temporary north-east merger, the continuance of which will depend on the decision of the people of the Eastern Province at a referendum within a year of the provincial councils, he said this was a small price to pay for peace in the country.

Indian Diplomat Office Attacked in Kandy

BK250544 Hong Kong AFP in English 0529 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] Colombo, Oct 25 (AFP)—The office of an assistant Indian high commissioner (ambassador) in central Sri Lanka was bombed Sunday but there were no casualties, police said.

An unknown attacker threw a powerful bomb early Sunday at R. P. Dua's office in the centre of Kandy town, 115 kilometers (72 miles) northeast of Colombo, partly damaging the two-storey building, they said.

Chief Inspector Tilak Beddawela said police were investigating the attack and suspected the Janatha Vimukti Peramuna (JVP—People's Liberation Front), a banned Sinhalese Marxist group opposed to July's Indo-Sri Lankan peace pact.

The JVP was blamed for violence against the accord in Colombo and the south of the island in which at least 66 people were killed in street rioting.

The pact was aimed at ending Sri Lanka's ethnic war and included provisions giving minority Tamils limited autonomy in the Northern and Eastern Provinces.

Parliament Extends State of Emergency 1 Month

BK231130 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] A resolution to extend the state of emergency by another month was passed in parliament yesterday. One hundred and six members voted for the resolution and four against. The SLFP [Sri Lanka Free Party], the MEP [Mahajana Eksath Peramuna], and the Communist Party voted against the resolution.

Minister of State Dr Anandatissa De Alwis, concluding the debate, said that the Indian Peacekeeping Force arrived on the island to disarm the terrorists. India spends a sum of about 30 million rupees on them daily. Although the Sri Lankan forces fought with dedication and courage, they did not attempt to take over Jaffna, thinking of the vast damage that will be caused to life and property. The Indian forces arrived here not to fight, but they had to attack the LTTE because of the action of its members.

Noting that the peace accord was signed on a friendship basis, Dr De Alwis emphasized that the Indian forces will be in Sri Lanka until they are needed by the president. [sentence as heard] The Sri Lanka Freedom Party had earlier said that the problem should be solved with the help of India, however, now they oppose such an action. He requested the SLFP to unite in solving this problem without any party differences.

Curfew Continues in Jaffna

BK251334 Colombo Domestic Service in Tamil 1230 GMT 25 Oct 87

[Text] The headquarters of the Joint Operations Command has announced that the curfew will continue to be in force in Jaffna Peninsula until further notice. A curfew will be enforced in the Batticaloa, Trincomalee, Mannar, Kilinochchi, and Mullaitivu Districts from 1800 this evening until 0600 tomorrow morning. A curfew will be in force in Vavuniya District from 1900 tonight to 0600 tomorrow morning. A curfew will be in force in Akkaraipattu and Pottuvil (?police station areas) from 1800 this evening to 1800 tomorrow evening.

Villagers Encouraged To Remain in Trincomalee

BK231138 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] A Defense Ministry spokesman told the SLBC [Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation] that the Sri Lankan Government has now provided security to all the villagers in the Trincomalee District and its environs. The Sri Lanka Army is now deployed in large numbers to provide security to the villagers in the Trincomalee District. People need not now leave their villages in fear. Those villagers who left their homes, particularly in the Kantalai area because of rumors of violence, can now go back as their safety is assured.

4 Indian Soldiers Killed in Land Mine Blast

BK231248 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 23 Oct 87

[Text] In Sri Lanka, four members of the peacekeeping force were killed and three injured in a land mine explosion in the eastern Batticaloa District. Official reports reaching Colombo said the blast occurred when an Army truck, in which the peacekeeping force personnel were travelling, hit a mine at Kalawanchikudi, 25 km south of eastern Batticaloa town. The land mine is believed to have been laid by the LTTE.